

***REV. JOHN DAWSON***

**DOCUMENTS PRODUCED BY THE ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES 2013  
PURSUANT TO JCCP 4286 SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

**Vicar for Clergy Database**

Clergy Assignment Record (Detailed)

**Mr John Henry Dawson**

Villa de Paz  
87 Calle Vadito NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87120

*Current Primary Assignment*

<i>Birth Date</i>	5/25/1941	<i>Age:</i>	71
<i>Birth Place</i>	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA	<i>Deanery:</i>	23
<i>Diaconate Ordination</i>			
<i>Priesthood Ordination</i>	4/29/1967		
<i>Diocese Name</i>	Archdiocese of Los Angeles		
<i>Date of Incardination</i>			
<i>Religious Community</i>			
<i>Ritual Ascription</i>	Latin		
<i>Ministry Status</i>	To Lay State		
<i>Canon State</i>	Diocesan Priest	<i>Incard Process</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Begin Pension Date</i>	4/29/1967		
<i>Home phone</i>	(505) 839-1448		
<i>Home phone</i>	(505) 839-0493		
<i>Seminary</i>	St. John's Seminary, Camarillo		
<i>Ethnicity</i>	American (USA)		

**Fingerprint Verification and Safeguard Training**

*Date Background Check*  
*Virtus Training Date*

**Assignment History**

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Beginning Date</i>	<i>Completion Date</i>
Returned To Lay State, Rescript from the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith, Prot. No. 410\2004.	4/29/2005	
Inactive Leave	10/1/1995	4/28/2005
Sick Leave	1/1/1993	9/30/1995
St. Sebastian Catholic Church, Los Angeles Pastor, Active Service	1/15/1985	12/31/1992
St. James the Less Catholic Church, La Crescenta Administrator Pro Tem, Active Service	7/14/1984	1/14/1985
St. James the Less Catholic Church, La Crescenta Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service	7/9/1982	7/13/1984

---

St. Bernadette Catholic Church, Los Angeles Administrator Pro Tem, Active Service	2/13/1982	7/8/1982
St. Bernadette Catholic Church, Los Angeles Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service	12/28/1978	2/12/1982
Our Lady of Refuge Catholic Church, Long Beach Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service	8/1/1974	12/27/1978
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church, Santa Barbara Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service	2/17/1970	7/31/1974
St. Paul of the Cross Catholic Church, La Mirada Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service	5/13/1967	2/16/1970

---



COPY

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of  
Vicar for Clergy  
(213) 251-32841531  
West Ninth  
StreetLos Angeles  
California  
90015-1194

December 2, 1992

REDACTED

Dear Mr. REDACTED

As I believe you are aware, I received a call from your mother several weeks ago. She related to me the fact that you would be uncomfortable with her having called me. Yet she felt a responsibility to do so.

Your mother told me that she had attended a series of therapy sessions to which your Counselor had invited her, during which you recounted that you had been molested by a certain priest of this Archdiocese. She told me that while she did not know details of the molestation, you said that it had occurred when you were an altar boy on an outing.

She gave me the name of the priest, and although you have not yet spoken to me, I see a need to approach him about this matter. Certainly I would do this with respect for your feelings and your right to privacy, but also with the intention of preventing any further abuse--if, in fact, what you have alleged is true.

It is my understanding that you felt imposed upon by my asking you to call, and I thought you might prefer, therefore, to write to me about the incidents you related to the therapist.

I can assure you that if you would like to speak to me, I would be very willing to explain to you what steps I would take with regard to this matter and to answer any questions you may have.

I would like to attend to this now, due to the nature of the allegation and also because I may need to be out of the office for several weeks in late December-early January for health reasons.

If you wish to call, my private number at home is REDACTED  
My number at the office is REDACTED If you prefer to  
write, you may use the address at the top of this letter.

With my deepest thanks for your consideration of this request,  
I remain

Sincerely yours,

*Timothy J. Dyer*  
(Rev. Msgr.) Timothy J. Dyer  
Vicar for Clergy

16908



Dear REDACTED

Q

- 15 yrs.
- not trying to entrap him  
but... prefer to have you
- allega. but (I'm waiting to hear from you)
- respond in say
- when he was an altar boy  
- on an outing
- nature of molesta?
- you may feel your rights are  
imposed upon - since of mother...

16909

Notes -- T. Dyer  
12/12/92

Phone Conversation with REDACTED

--In 1976 when I was a 6th (or 7th?) grader and an altar boy, I was molested by Fr. John Dawson. I suspect it happened to more kids. I say that because he would take one or two altar boys at a time to go on overnite trips.

--He took me to Santa Barbara where he visited a friend at the seminary. We checked into a motel. On the way there he had stopped for a 6-pack of beer. When we got to the motel he tried to make me drink some and gave me marijuana. Then he took off my clothes and massaged me with his hands and tried to get me to do the same for him... I wouldn't. Got into my pajamas at night. He came and took off my underwear and fondled my genitals.

--I was 12 years old at the time. It changed my whole attitude toward the Church. The hardest part was that I was taught to look up to these priests in the church.

--Oftentimes, Fr. Dawson had taken us to the movies and put his hands on us. I didn't think much of it until the motel incident.

--I have no intentions of legal action.

-----  
Fr. Dawson was seen the same day, 12/12/92 by REDACTED and myself. He was removed from the parish that day and given a room at the priest's quarters in Mater Dolorosa Retreat House. In January he went to REDACTED

After Fr. Dawson's entrance into REDACTED I called REDACTED to relate the actions taken in this case, to apologize on behalf of Fr. Dawson, extend an invitation to go to counseling (for which Fr. Dawson was responsible), to notify anyone else he knew of to contact me if they had suffered similar incidents.

16907



Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of  
Vicar for Clergy  
(213) 251-3284

1531  
West Ninth  
Street

Los Angeles  
California  
90015-1194

**TELECOMMUNICATION COVER LETTER**

**DATE:** DECEMBER 13, 1992

**TIME:** 3:14 P.M.

FOLLOWING IS A TWO PAGE DOCUMENT

REDACTED

**TO:**

**ADDRESS:**

**FAX NO:**

**FROM:** OFFICE OF THE VICAR FOR CLERGY  
ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES  
REDACTED

**CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE**

This transmission is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged and confidential. If the reader of the message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, distribution, or copying this information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify us immediately by telephone, and return the original documents to us at the above address via the United States Postal Service.

If all pages are not received or not readable, please call (213) 251-3284.

16904

**CONFIDENTIAL**

MEMORANDUM

**CONFIDENTIAL**

December 14, 1992

TO: REDACTED

FROM: REDACTED

RE: ALLEGATION THAT FATHER JOHN DAWSON SEXUALLY ABUSED A YOUNG MAN (NOW 28), THEN 12 YEARS OF AGE, IN 1976

A young man made the following report by phone to Monsignor Timothy Dyer on Saturday, December 12, 1992:

"I was an altar boy at Our Lady of Refuge Church in Long Beach in 1976 or so, a 6th or 7th grader. I suspect what happened to me happened to more kids, because he'd take one or two altar boys and go on overnight trips. One time, Father Dawson took me to visit a friend of his at a seminary in Santa Barbara. I was 12 years old. We stayed at a motel that night. On the way to it, he stopped for a six-pack of beer. After checking in, he tried to get me to drink some beer or smoke some marijuana that he had. I didn't do it. He took my clothes off. He had a hand massager and wanted me to use it on him. I wouldn't. I went in the bathroom, put on my pajamas and got in bed. He came and took off my underwear and fondled my genitals. This changed my whole attitude toward the Church. The hardest part was, I was taught to look up to those priests in the Church. It's confusing. Other times he'd take us to the movies and put his hands on us. I didn't think much of it until the incident. I have no intention of bringing any legal charges."

On Monday, December 14, 1992, Father John Dawson, with his friend and former classmate, REDACTED a teacher, met with Msgrs. Timothy Dyer and REDACTED. When presented with this detailed allegation, Father Dawson replied, "What was the parish? Can't remember the name. It could be a misperception on his part." Msgr. Dyer asked, "Has this ever been a problem to you?" Father Dawson said something like, "Not that I'm aware of." His answers were soft and tentative. He later added, "I have no memory of this at all. I remember the last name, but..."

Father Dawson broke down and wept as we discussed the possibility of his having to take an administrative leave before Christmas.

Msgr. Dyer added that an anonymous allegation had come from La Mirada about five years ago that some kids were talking about Father Dawson taking one particular youngster to Palm Springs regularly. They

16905

REDACTED

Page 2

were suspicious that something bad was going on. Because the allegation was anonymous, no action was taken at the time. But this anonymous report has a reinforcing effect on the present allegation.

Both Msgr. Dyer and I felt that the combination of a) a precise non-hostile allegation, b) a tentative and vague denial, and c) a previous similar anonymous allegation from a source separated by time and location made it likely that there is a problem here.

Father Dawson agreed to call you very soon and he understands that you are to report the results of his evaluation back to the Cardinal. Msgr. Dyer did not probe deeply in his questions, but indicated that you would be thorough in your search for the truth of his condition.

If residential treatment at St. Luke's is recommended, the sooner the Cardinal knows that, the better.

16906



CONFIDENTIAL

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of  
Vicar for Clergy  
(213) 251-32841531  
West Ninth  
StreetLos Angeles  
California  
90015-1194

December 14, 1992

TO: CARDINAL MAHONY

FROM: REDACTED

RE: REV. JOHN DAWSON

Monsignor Dyer asked me to pass the following report on to you:

A Mr. REDACTED made an allegation by phone to Monsignor Dyer that Father REDACTED, Pastor of St. Sebastian Church, Los Angeles, abused him sexually in 1976, when Mr. REDACTED was a 12-year-old altar boy at Our Lady of Refuge Church, Long Beach (see attached pre-evaluation memorandum).

In a personal meeting with Monsignor Dyer and me, REDACTED denied "remembering" anything. His denial was rather vague and indirect.

An anonymous allegation of similar conduct was made about Father Dawson about five years ago. It came from La Mirada.

REDACTED has agreed to begin an evaluation of Father Dawson in a day or two.

Msgr. Dyer and I agree that Father Dawson most likely has a serious problem, that the allegations probably have substance.

The present question is: Should Father Dawson be sent on administrative leave from his parish immediately, or do we wait for the results of the evaluation? Does his staying on the job even temporarily put any youngsters in jeopardy (I do not think so) or indicate that we do not take this kind of allegation with sufficient seriousness?

*Administrative leave at once is indicated in this case - complainant's allegations are too serious,*

*quinto* REDACTED  
REDACTED

*R M K*

REDACTED

*12-15-92*

16903

## MEMORANDUM

COPY

DATE: December 16, 1992  
FROM: REDACTED  
TO: Cardinal Mahony  
RE: Father John Dawson

Following up on your decision that Father Dawson should go at once to Administrative Leave status, I am writing to let you know that he is taking up residence at Mater Dolorosa Retreat House today.

His week-long evaluation by REDACTED, \_\_\_\_\_ and his psychologist associate begins tomorrow, and results should be available to us by Christmas.

16902

**CONFIDENTIAL**

REDACTED

**CONFIDENTIAL**

January 5, 1993

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Reverend Timothy J. Dyer  
Vicar for Clergy  
1531 West 9th Street  
Los Angeles, California 90015

Re: Reverend John Dawson

Dear Father Dyer,

Persuant to your referral I have conducted a full evalution of Father John Dawson's psychological functioning. Father Dawson is a fifty-one year old priest from the Archdiocese of Los Angeles whose referral is the result of a complaint registered to you by phone on December 12, 1992 by a twenty-eight year old man. The caller alleged that in 1976 when he was twelve years of age Father John Dawson tried to persuade him to drink beer and/or smoke marijuana which the boy refused. He alleged that Father Dawson removed the boy's clothing and wanted to use a hand massager on him but the boy also refused; however, Father Dawson allegedly removed the boy's underwear and fondled his genitals.

On December 14, 1992, subsequent to the allegation made, Father Dawson was interviewed by Fathers Dyer and <sup>REDACTED</sup> and was described as "soft and tentative". He inquired as to which parish he was assigned to when the allegation was made and suggested the man making the allegation may have had a "misperception". He added he had no memory of the incident but later said he did, in fact, recall the last name of the alleged victim.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

16886



Reverend Timothy J. Dye  
Re: Reverend John Dawson

January 5, 1993

2

Father Dawson also broke down and cried. Additionally, information was included about another allegation five years previously from the La Mirada parish where Father Dawson allegedly had taken a boy to Palm Springs regularly. The allegation was made anonymously and no action was taken.

REDACTED

REDACTED

16887

Reverend Timothy J. Dyer  
Re: Reverend John Dawson

January 5, 1993  
3

REDACTED

REDACTED

16888

Reverend Timothy J. Dyer  
Re: Reverend John Dawson

January 5, 1993

4

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

16889

Reverend Timothy J. Dyer  
Re: Reverend John Dawson

January 5, 1993  
5

REDACTED

REDACTED

16890

Reverend Timothy J. Dyer  
Re: Reverend John Dawson

January 5, 1993  
6

REDACTED

REDACTED

16891

Reverend Timothy J. Dyer  
Re: Reverend John Dawson

January 5, 1993  
7

The next parish was the Santa Barbara/Montecito parish where he served from 1970 to 1974. Though he was reluctant (in denial) to discuss what occurred there he ultimately said he did take a nine year old boy to Disneyland. While at a motel he said the boy came out of the bathroom naked with an erection. Though they never had anal intercourse he said what occurred was that they got in bed and touched each other to orgasm. He got together with this boy four to five times in all, saying they would sleep together and "kind of like sleeping - never overt" they would masturbate to orgasm. He denied any oral sex. He was drinking at the time. He added that it was his belief that he did not "try to corrupt or instigate" and said "the boy came on to me".

From 1974 to 1979 Father Dawson was at the Long Beach Lady of Refuge parish. When asked if he had any sexual experiences there he said "it is blocked - i don't remember - i'm just trying to deal with this - i have no memory". He says he is aware that the young man who called the parish said that he took him to the seminary in Santa Barbara and offered marijuana and undressed as well as massaged him and manipulated his genital. He could not be sure of that incident but in any case he did have sexual experiences with boys in their early teenage years while at the Long Beach parish. He said he thought of the boys as friends and said he would touch a young boy age eight or nine while he was asleep. He did have marijuana about ten times during this period of his life but said he had not had any marijuana in fifteen years. In summary, during his time at the Long Beach parish, sexual fondling of young boys in their preteen years took place two or three times.

16892

Reverend Timothy J. Dyer  
Re: Reverend John Dawson

January 5, 1993  
8

REDACTED

From 1983 to 1985 Father Dawson was at the St. James parish in La Crescenta. He denied sexual experiences there but he did recall hugging a boy affectionately though he said nothing happened. REDACTED  
REDACTED

In 1985 Father Dawson went to the St. Sebastian's parish. He denied sexual experiences at first but then said a thirteen year old boy and he became involved and he said he would touch the boy's genital and he would become aroused when he touched the boy. REDACTED  
REDACTED

Summarizing, Father Dawson's sexual experiences with minors includes mutual masturbation with a nine year old boy from 1970 to 1974 about four to five times. From 1974 to 1979 Father Dawson is partially "blocked". However he does confirm one masturbatory episode involving sexual fondling of a nine year old boy. He also fondled a thirteen year old boy while at St. Sebastian's parish (1985 to present) in what appears to have been more than one occasion but the frequency could not be verified at this time. Father Dawson was candid, though partially blocked, in

16893

Reverend Timothy J. Dyer  
Re: Reverend John Dawson

January 5, 1993  
9

regard to the recollection of his history and confirming of mutual fondling of genitalia as his sexual preoccupation with preadolescent and early adolescent boys.

REDACTED

REDACTED

16894



Reverend Timothy J. Dyer  
Re: Reverend John Dawson

January 5, 1993  
13

REDACTED

Respectfully,  
REDACTED

16898



# Saint Luke Institute

January 8, 1993

**Confidential**

Reverend Timothy J. Dyer  
1531 West 9th Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Re: Reverend John Dawson  
SLI REDACTED

Dear Father Dyer,

This letter is meant to acknowledge that the above named patient, Reverend John Dawson, was admitted on January 6, 1993 to the Saint Luke Institute in Suitland, Maryland. During Father Dawson's residency at the Institute, his therapist will be REDACTED MSW, LGSW and she will be contact with you regularly concerning Father Dawson's progress and needs. Should you have any questions concerning Father Dawson, please feel free to contact REDACTED

As of this writing, Father Dawson seems to have made a good adjustment to the Institute program and he is beginning to work on his recovery program. Please be assured of our continuing prayers.

Sincerely,

*Curtis C. Bryant / J. M. Bolger*

Curtis C. Bryant, SJ, PhD  
Director, Inpatient Clinical Services  
REDACTED

REDACTED

cc: Reverend John Dawson

16884

COPY

*Rosen*

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of  
Vicar for Clergy  
(213) 251-32841531  
West Ninth  
StreetLos Angeles  
California  
90015-1194

January 15, 1993

REDACTED

Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center  
700 North Sunnyside Avenue  
Post Office Box 68  
Sierra Madre, California 91024

Dear REDACTED

Enclosed is check for [REDACTED]

This is in line with our conversation last week (and it was a pleasure to talk with you again). We are sending it with very deep thanks for all your help.

Best wishes for the New Year.

Sincerely yours,

REDACTED

REDACTED

16882

VENDOR 24410 WATER DOLOROSA RETREAT CTR.  
THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP OF LOS ANGELES  
(A CORPORATION SOLE)  
1531 West Ninth Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90015-1194

A 044923

DATE	INVOICE NO.	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
1/11/93	DEC1992	DONATION FOR CARE OF J. DAWSON	
TOTAL -			



**The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Los Angeles**  
(A Corporation Sole)  
Los Angeles, California 90015-1194

A 044923

OLYMPIC UNION BRANCH  
**BANK OF AMERICA**  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

CHECK NO.	44923
DATE	1/15/93
AMOUNT	

**PAY:**

TO THE  
ORDER  
OF

\*\*\*\*\* DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS

VOID AFTER 90 DAYS

MATER DOLOROSA RETREAT CTR.  
700 N. SUNNYSIDE AVE. #68

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP  
REDACTED

SIERRA MADRE CA 91024

⑈044923⑈ ⑆122000661⑆ 03090⑈03030⑈



## *Saint Luke Institute*

January 20, 1993

Monsignor Timothy Dyer  
Archdiocese of Los Angeles  
1531 West Ninth Street  
Los Angeles, California 90015-1194

Dear Monsignor Dyer:

REDACTED

The most recent arrival from L.A. seems to be settling in fine. His therapist, REDACTED, will be apprising you periodically of his progress in treatment. We expect to do a modified evaluation of him because of the initial assessment by Dr. REDACTED.

As you know, we value our relationship with you and your Archdiocese very much. It isn't just because of all the business that you have sent us. We have also appreciated your good documentation, your willingness to take into account the individual features of each case and the opportunities we've had to dialogue on some of the broader issues that come up in dealing with ailing priests.

A long distance, time zones and the complexities of our respective work structures can hinder communication. Even though I have supervisory responsibilities and frequent contact with the in-patient team it is probably best that inquiries as well as information regarding a specific patient be addressed to that patient's individual therapist. This not only enhances timeliness but also helps prevent any distortions that can enter the picture when information is passed along from one person to another. If such communication with the primary therapist is unsatisfactory in any way an approach to their supervisor, Father REDACTED, is welcomed.

16880

- 2 -

Father Tim, it seems we have yet to see the "easy case." Things get even murkier when there are court issues, victim concerns and uncertainty over post-treatment status. Over time we have found that communication is clearest when the primary therapist is the principal conduit for information. Thanks for your understanding.

Warm regards,  
REDACTED

REDACTED

16881

REDACTED

Dear

I'd like to take a moment  
of your time to share with you some  
very special qualities about a man,  
a friend, a priest, Father John  
Lawson.

Father John Lawson has always  
looked out for others needs unselfishly.  
Not only did he always worry  
about St. Sebastian's church but  
also its fellow parishioners and  
neighbors as well.

Two years ago at Christmas time  
I was in serious financial trouble  
and he made sure my  
daughter and I had a  
Christmas tree which I  
could not even afford.



© BRUSHCREEK CREATIVE

16871

in view of people's needs and interests  
of the neighborhood that he stretched  
out his hands to and could tell from  
personality of his concern and sincere  
love for all.

Father Dawson despite his faults  
and insecurities answered God's call  
to become a priest. He made the  
sacrifices effort when others decided  
not to.

Today's his a bad guy according  
to rumors repeated, changed, distorted,  
conflicting and contradicting.

Father Dawson tried to work by  
St. Sebastian Church but was  
met with constant  
criticism. He  
took Spanish classes to learn  
Spanish and he loved and



BRUSHCREEK CREATIVE

16872



and accepted my will, but was  
 disappointed that he couldn't speak the  
 Spanish language. He would try to learn  
 so much to the Spanish people that  
 several Americans got fed up and  
 were afraid that we English.

I was told at a meeting with  
 local missionaries that the Spanish  
 people are too busy to learn English.  
 I quickly thought of my grandparents  
 who were from <sup>REDACTED</sup> and worked  
 themselves to the bone and earned  
 English as well and have united  
 with all Catholics and are regular  
 parishioners at a Church in San Diego.

If people's cultural  
 identity and pride are  
 more important than  
 being a Catholic & believing



BRUSHCREEK CREATIVE

16873

it is now to Miss Lissner in  
St. James Church.

If Father Dawson's parish was  
taken away because of his immoral  
behavior I believe that's a cowardly  
way to stop him.

I'm aware of another neighboring  
parish that had similar circumstances  
but the priest was able to resign  
once again.

Father John Dawson is educated,  
intelligent, his sermons have always  
been positive messages, he's trusted  
parishioners abilities to handle positions,  
he studied very hard Spanish, he's  
even more of a Christian  
than some people can be  
in ten life times.



© BRUSHCREEK CREATIVE

16874

The negative quality outweighs  
all the positives.

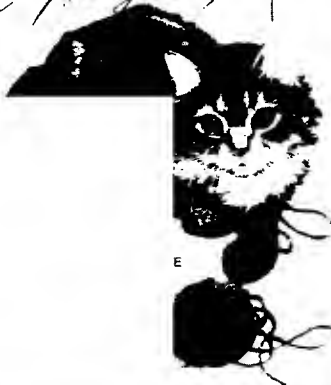
is typical of a predominantly  
negative society.

I've truly believe there is a devil  
that we can believe that Satan  
can counter to assist <sup>one of</sup> the Catholic  
Church's Shepherds.

Please try to deal with  
this openly and honestly. I truly  
believe that evolution can over-  
come the best of men.

Love and Special Prayers,

REDACTED



16875



## *Saint Luke Institute*

February 2, 1993

**Confidential**

Reverend Timothy J. Dyer, VA  
1531 West 9th Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Re: Reverend John Dawson  
REDACTED

Dear Father Dyer:

This letter is in regard to the progress of Father John Dawson who is going into his second month of treatment here at Saint Luke Institute. REDACTED  
REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

16867

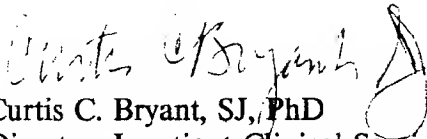
Reverend Timothy J. Dyer  
Re: Reverend John Dawson

February 2, 1993  
Page 2

Our prayers for you and for your continuing ministry in the Lord.

Sincerely,

REDACTED

  
Curtis C. Bryant, SJ, PhD  
Director, Inpatient Clinical Services

REDACTED

REDACTED

cc: Rev. John Dawson

16868



## *Saint Luke Institute*

**CONFIDENTIAL**

February 8, 1993

Monsignor Timothy J. Dyer, JCD  
Vicar for Clergy  
1531 West Ninth Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

RE: Reverend John Dawson  
REDACTED

Dear Monsignor Dyer:

Thank you for your referral of Father John Dawson who is, as you know, a 51 year old Caucasian priest from the Diocese of Los Angeles. Father Dawson was referred for evaluation at Saint Luke Institute following an allegation that in 1976 he sexually molested a young man who was then 12 years of age. Allegedly, Father Dawson took the boy on an overnight trip; at a motel, he offered the boy beer and marijuana, took the boy's clothes off, and later in bed, removed the child's underwear and fondled his genitals. Father Dawson has said that he recalls the last name of the alleged victim but denies any recollection of the alleged incident. There is an additional anonymous allegation that, about five years ago, Father Dawson repeatedly took one particular youngster on short trips. On December 13, 1992, Father Dawson was confronted by Monsignor Dyer and REDACTED of the Los Angeles Archdiocese regarding the allegations and was referred to REDACTED MD, PhD for an initial psychiatric and psychological evaluation. After meeting with Father Dawson, Doctor REDACTED recommended residential treatment at Saint Luke Institute.

REDACTED

REDACTED

February 8, 1993  
Page 4

RE: Reverend John Dawson - REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

He reports that while working as a camp counsellor when he was around 20 or 21 he had sexual contact with an assistant counsellor who was 15 or 16 years old; reportedly, Father Dawson

16854

REDACTED

February 8, 1993

RE: Reverend John Dawson -REDACTED

Page 5

"pretended to be asleep" as the youth placed Father Dawson's hand on his own genitals. Father Dawson reports feeling guilty and embarrassed and afterwards "pretending it didn't happen." He does state, however, that sexual contact with this youth occurred several times over a three or four year period. Also as a seminarian, while involved in a parish census, Father Dawson states that he became acquainted with a family and had sexual contact with their 14 year old son. Reportedly, they slept in the same bed and, on one occasion when the boy was sleeping nude, Father Dawson touched him. Just after ordination in 1968, Father Dawson reports sexual contact with a 14 year old boy with whom he had gone camping; he reports that alcohol use preceded the sexual contact.

Between 1970 and 1974, while serving in a Santa Barbara parish, Father Dawson acknowledges that on at least two occasions he invited young boys to Disneyland. Reportedly, on one occasion, he stayed overnight in a motel and states that the boy who was with him came out of the shower naked with an erection. Father Dawson reports that they got into bed and touched each other to orgasm but had no oral or anal intercourse. Reportedly, he had sexual contact with this boy four to five times and stated they would sleep together and, "kind of like sleeping," they would masturbate to orgasm. Reportedly, Father Dawson was drinking at the time of these encounters. He stated that he had contact with this boy several years later when the boy was 18. It is of significance that while being interviewed by Dr. REDACTED in Los Angeles, Father Dawson stated that this boy was 9 years old at the time of the initial contacts, whereas, when describing this incident to the evaluators at Saint Luke Institute he maintained that the boy was 14 and denied any sexual contact with boys younger than 12 or 13. When confronted with this discrepancy, he stated that what he said to Dr. REDACTED must have been heard incorrectly.

Between 1974 and 1979 Father Dawson served at a parish in Long Beach, and reportedly drank heavily and smoked marijuana a couple of times a month. The alleged incident of undressing and fondling a 12 or 13 year old boy that prompted this evaluation would have happened in this time period. Although vaguely denying that incident, Father Dawson did acknowledge having sexual experiences with several boys in their early teenage years while at the Long Beach parish and also stated to Dr. REDACTED that two or three times he fondled young boys in their pre-teen years (8 or 9 years old). During the evaluation here at Saint Luke Institute he denied any contact with pre-teenagers.

REDACTED

16855



REDACTED

February 8, 1993

RE: Reverend John Dawson -REDACTED

Page 6

In 1985, Father Dawson became pastor at St. Sebastian's parish. Reportedly, he had no sexual contacts there until recently, within the last year or so, when he touched a 13 year old boy on his genitals while the boy was reportedly asleep. Reportedly this happened on more than one occasion.

REDACTED

16856

REDACTED

February 8, 1993  
Page 11

RE: Reverend John Dawson -REDACTED

REDACTED

Sincerely yours,  
REDACTED

REDACTED PhD  
Psychology Associate  
Outpatient Clinical Services



Stephen Montana, PhD  
Director, Outpatient Department

REDACTED

cc: Reverend John Dawson

16861



## MEMORANDUM

CONFIDENTIAL

February 19, 1993

TO: CARDINAL MAHONY  
FROM: MONSIGNOR DYER  
RE: REV. JOHN DAWSON

Attached is the Evaluation of Father John Dawson by Dr. REDACTED  
REDACTED

Unusually good cooperation in the testing process, as well as my communication with Father Dawson subsequent to our initial meeting on December 12, indicate a good prognosis for residential treatment. - but future?

Clear diagnosis of pedophilia has resulted in our advertising of St. Sebastian's Parish in the most recent General Mailing.

*I am concerned about the almost total history all through the year - I cannot foresee placing him in future ministry.*

*+ RM 14*

*2-22-93*

16869

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 26, 1993

FROM: Father Dyer

TO: Cardinal Mahony

RE: Rev. John Dawson

Attached is the first progress report from St. Luke Institute.

*St. Luke's,**+ R M M**2-28-93*

16866



## *Saint Luke Institute*

March 1, 1993

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Reverend Timothy J. Dyer  
1531 West 9th Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Re: Reverend John Dawson  
REDACTED

Date of Admission: 1/6/93

Dear Father Dyer:

Father John Dawson has been in treatment now for eight weeks. REDACTED  
REDACTED

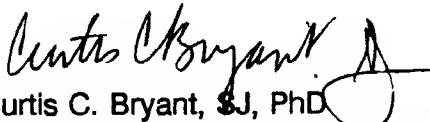
Reverend Timothy J. Dyer  
Re: Reverend John Dawson - SLI No: REDACTED

March 1, 1993  
Page 2

REDACTED

Father Dawson is adjusting very well to the program here at the Saint Luke Institute. He expresses concern about his future in ministry, and realizes that this will be addressed in time. He expresses gratitude to you for the help you give him. Please continue to keep him in your prayers.

Sincerely,  
REDACTED

  
Curtis C. Bryant, SJ, PhD  
Director, Inpatient Clinical Services  
REDACTED

REDACTED

cc: Reverend John Dawson

16865



*John Dawson*

## *Saint Luke Institute*

March 31, 1993

**Confidential**

Reverend Timothy J. Dyer, VG  
1531 West 9th Street  
Los Angeles, California 90015

Re: Reverend John Dawson  
REDACTED

Dear Father Dyer,

This letter is in regard to the progress of Father John Dawson who is going into his third month in treatment here at Saint Luke Institute. Father Dawson continues to be motivated and is making steady progress in his treatment program.

REDACTED

16862

REDACTED


Reverend Timothy J. Dyer, VG  
Re: Reverend John Dawson REDACTED

March 31, 1993  
Page 2

REDACTED

Looking forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,  
REDACTED

  
Curtis C. Bryant, SJ, PhD  
Director, Inpatient Clinical Services  
REDACTED

REDACTED

cc: Rev. John Dawson

16863





## MEMORANDUM

CONFIDENTIAL

April 1, 1993

TO: CARDINAL MAHONY  
FROM: MONSIGNOR DYER  
RE: REV. JOHN DAWSON

Attached is the initial report on Father John Dawson from REDACTED

We will need to discuss the situation soon, as I am going to REDACTED during Easter Week and will need to apprise Father Dawson of what awaits him upon his return to Los Angeles.

*Let's talk about this - I have  
real questions -*

*+ RMM*

*4-2-93*

16850



**COPY**  
*John Dawson*

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of  
 Vicar for Clergy  
 (213) 251-3284

1531  
 West Ninth  
 Street

Los Angeles  
 California  
 90015-1194

April 30, 1993

Rev. John Dawson  
 St. Luke Institute  
 2421 Brooks Drive  
 Suitland, Maryland 20746-5294

Dear John:

I write to you following our visit earlier this month to offer my support and care in these days that are no doubt difficult ones for you.

I realize the news I had to bring from the Cardinal was not what you had hoped for. Perhaps because I had to play the messenger, I wish now all the more to tell you of my concern for you and to assure you we are continuing to discuss the questions about your future that were raised at our interview, i.e., about residence for you when you return, medical coverage, and future employment.

I understand great stress can be caused by the fact that these questions have not yet been settled. It is for that reason that I hope to allay some anxiety on your part by telling you they are matters of great importance here, and that we will work to answer them while you continue to work at your therapy and recovery.

I would like to know if there are any priests whom you would like me to contact to tell them you are on Sick Leave and to assure them they can send letters through this office. We will forward them to you unopened. Or, if you prefer, they can write directly to you at the Institute.

If I myself can send you anything or be of support to you, I would ask that you call me at home REDACTED or write to me.

In the meantime, may God bless you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

(Rev.) Timothy J. Dyer  
 Vicar for Clergy

REDACTED

16848



## *Saint Luke Institute*

May 6, 1993

**Confidential**

Reverend Timothy J. Dyer, VG  
1531 West 9th Street  
Los Angeles, California 90015

Re: Reverend John Dawson  
REDACTED

Dear Father Dyer,

This letter is in regard to the progress of Father John Dawson who is going into his fourth month of treatment. I would also like to take the time here to thank you for your visit several weeks ago. It meant a lot to Father Dawson that you personally came to visit him.

Father Dawson is working his anger over his loss of ministry. This loss is extremely painful for him. He still feels hope that perhaps, in time, he might be able to return to ministry. We are encouraging him to work at resolving his feelings around this loss which will allow him to move more constructively into exploring other possible career options.

Father Dawson has mentioned several areas that he would like clarification on. He asked me to relay these to you. They are as follows:

1. How much, if any, vocational rehab dollars would he be entitled to?
2. If he desired to continue in our continuing care program (that is every six months coming here to Saint Luke Institute for a one week period), would that be approved?
3. You had mentioned he would have housing facilities. He is requesting the use of a car or a cash allowance to buy one.
4. How long would his salary continue?

16845

Reverend Timothy J. Dyer  
Re: Reverend John Dawson #12672

May 6, 1993  
Page 2

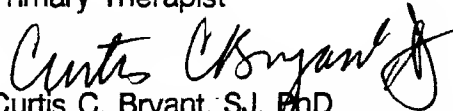
5. Would it be possible for him to be eligible for medical retirement?
6. Would he be kept on his medical insurance for therapy and other medically related problems? Also insurance to cover his medicines REDACTED  
REDACTED
7. His question still remains around "if he were able to maintain sobriety for a specific length of time, would a possible ministry position be made available to him?"
8. Lastly, he states he will not be laicized.

Father Dawson continues to do well in treatment. Although disappointed and angry at having no ministry, he is putting his recovery program first. His treatment team feels he is making good progress at this time. It would be helpful to us if some of these questions could be addressed soon, so that we can work them in treatment.

In closing, I would once again thank you for your time spent with us. Please continue to keep our work with Father Dawson in your prayers. You are in our prayers.

Sincerely,  
REDACTED

Primary Therapist



Curtis C. Bryant, SJ, PhD  
Director, Inpatient Clinical Services

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

cc: Rev. John Dawson

16846

# SAINT LUKE INSTITUTE

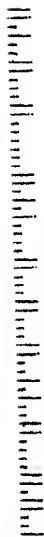
2420 Brooks Drive, Suitland, Maryland 20746-5294

CONFIDENTIAL



Reverend Timothy J. Dyer, VG  
1531 West 9th Street  
Los Angeles, California 90015

10000



16847

DATE:

May 17, 1993

**FROM:**

**TO:**

REDACTED

**RE:**

Rev. John Dawson

**MEMORANDUM**

**PRIORITY**

We had a call from [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] she said she mailed you a letter about three weeks ago that contained questions Father Dawson has about future and that there has been no response. She indicated he is doing so well they may be releasing him a few weeks earlier--but needs the questions answered for him.

I told her you would perhaps call her early tomorrow morning our time. The number is and with the three-hour time difference you might get it in before swimming time. She will be there all day tomorrow.

Meantime, not recalling such a letter, I checked the files and found nothing to match that description. So I called back and left a message for her to FAX or re-mail same anyway--even though I would be telling you to call her.

Called — told her we never got the letter  
She said she'd put it

**16849**

DATE:

May 17, 1993

FROM:

TO:

RE:

Rev. John Dawson

We had a call from

at

said she mailed you a letter about three weeks ago that contained questions Father Dawson has about himself and that there has been no response. She indicated he is doing so well they may be releasing him a few weeks earlier but needs the questions answered for him.

I told her you would perhaps call her early tomorrow morning our time. The number is [REDACTED] and within the three-hour time difference you might get it in before swimming time. She will be there all day tomorrow.

Meantime, not recalling such a letter, I checked the [REDACTED] and found nothing to match that description. So I called [REDACTED] and left a message for her to FAX or re-mail name anyway [REDACTED] though I would be telling you to call her.

*Called - told her we never got the  
she said she'd fax it*

16849

MEMORANDUMMay 22, 1993

TO: Cardinal Mahony  
 FROM: Father Timothy Dyer  
 RE: Fr. John Dawson

Attached is a list of questions being asked by Fr. John Dawson as he proceeds in therapy at St. Luke's. He asked that they be forwarded to us by the Institute. I think it is best for you to see these questions and tell me how you want to proceed in responding to them.

REDACTED

Fr. Dawson's primary therapist, indicates that the staff believes Fr. Dawson has progressed beyond the expectations set for him and at a much faster rate than they would have predicted. They have asked to move him into a new facility they have established which offers career planning and is run like a halfway house. The cost of this new program is much reduced from the normal rates at the Institute. I believe Fr. Dawson would spend about six weeks in this facility before returning to Los Angeles.

REDACTED

(Please note that while the SLI report is dated May 6th, it did not arrive in this office until May 17th.)

I am really displeased at St. Luke's for sending us all these "impossible questions" without one word from them about his precise diagnosis, his short-term + long-term prognosis - please convey my displeasure to them. We are paying a lot more money than this letter reflects - we need more than to just "convey John's questions."

+ RMD

5-25-93

16844



MEMORANDUM

*C-File*  
*John Dawson*

May 28, 1993

TO: Cardinal Mahony  
 FROM: Father Timothy Dyer  
 RE: Fr. John Dawson

By the time you read this, I should have spoken to both Dr. REDACTED Medical Director at St. Luke's and REDACTED Fr. Dawson's primary therapist (both were "out until Friday" when I called Wednesday, May 26th). The points I will convey are the following:

- That you are most displeased with their list of 8 questions -- unaccompanied by any short-term or long-term prognosis on their part.
- That it appears we are put in the light as "the bad guys" who took away Fr. Dawson's ministry -- leaving him to struggle through his anger with our action.
- That they fail to explain what "Fr. Dawson continues to do well in treatment..." means.
- That you do not see any hope for future ministry for Fr. Dawson and that after all the expenditure involved in putting him through the St. Luke's program, you are expecting their evaluation in that regard.

I will also refer to the fact that I have consistently said (from the time of my visit to Washington in mid-April until a conversation in mid-May with REDACTED that I foresaw no return to ministry in this case. I will expand on your second point (above) that we are looking to hear if Fr. Dawson can get beyond expressing his anger at the Archdiocese and begin directing his feelings at the appropriate cause of his problems, i.e. taking personal responsibility for his actions and the consequences.

I must tell you that when I visited with Fr. Dawson at St. Luke's, we spent two sessions in which he expressed his feelings and asked me questions -- in the course of which he never once mentioned the victims nor showed me any real signs that he had begun to identify with their feelings.

Finally, a few points we can discuss at length when I see you: My purpose in going to see Fr. Dawson when he was only midway through treatment was based on past experience. I had explained to St. Luke's

16842

that my coming on other occasions to see priests in their final month of treatment, gave little time for them to deal with the Archdiocese' decisions in regard to their future in ministry. They understood this and were in full agreement that I come earlier -- particularly, with men who would not be returning to ministry. This would enable the therapists to begin work with a man's mental transitions and the exploring of other possible directions for living outside of ministry. When I saw Fr. Dawson and told him he would not return to ministry, he had all kinds of questions (reflected here in many of the "8 questions") regarding financial support (car, housing, insurance), continued therapy, vocational training, etc. I told him I was not prepared to answer those things in detail but that he could write his questions to you and would be given a response. (As we both know there are still unanswered questions about housing and financial support for middle-aged men who cannot go on in ministry. While, I feel, we have defined most of our policy quite well as regards intervention, treatment and therapeutic follow-up, we are still taking each case REDACTED on an individual basis.)

One of the mistakes, as I see it, in the list of questions sent us is that they were written up on Fr. Dawson's behalf by St. Luke's rather than by Fr. Dawson himself -- as I had asked. This puts St. Luke's in the position of "advocate" which is not their role.

*Right on target!! Thanks!*

*Let's chat -*

*+ RMM*

*5-28-93*

16843



# *Saint Luke Institute*

## **CONFIDENTIAL**

### **Progress Report**

**Patient:** Reverend John Dawson

**SLI No:** REDACTED

**Date of Admission:** 1/6/93

**Date of Discharge to Half-way House:** 6/29/93

REDACTED

Progress Report  
Patient: Reverend John Dawson - REDACTED

Page 2

REDACTED

Father Dawson acknowledges that he cannot work around male teenagers. Saint Luke's confirms his assessment. We would recommend him not working in any future capacity which might involve contact with male adolescents. Although Father Dawson has gained much knowledge around his addiction here at Saint Luke's, his past behavior has been very problematic. The best way we have found to evaluate positive future behavior is on proven behavioral changes.

When Father Dawson completes inpatient treatment he will put together his continuing care contract, which he will implement in the half-way house. In this contract will be included: the number of 12 step meetings he will have to attend; contact with his support group, therapist, group meetings, sponsor and spiritual adviser; taking depo provera and other prescribed medications. If he follows his contract and places his recovery program as top priority, we would give him a fair prognosis rating. REDACTED  
REDACTED



## *Saint Luke Institute*

June 7, 1993

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Reverend Timothy Dyer, VG  
Vicar for Clergy  
Archdiocese of Los Angeles  
1531 W. Ninth St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90015-1194

Re: Reverend John Dawson  
SLI No: REDACTED

Dear Father Dyer:

I appreciated our telephone conversation last week. I'm glad we had the opportunity to discuss the confusion around my last letter to you. To mention again, in no way did Saint Luke Institute try to advocate for Father Dawson. Your input into the broader picture and possible implications for the diocese was helpful to me.

In reference to Father Dawson's outstanding questions, I have asked him to write a letter to the Cardinal requesting his anticipated needs. He is in the process of writing the letter and I'm sure you will be receiving it shortly.

REDACTED

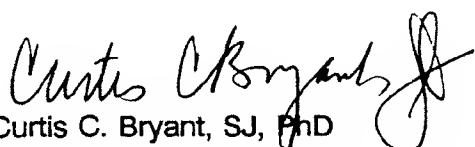
16836

Reverend Timothy Dyer  
Re: Reverend John Dawson - SLI No: REDACTED

June 7, 1993  
Page 2

We are looking forward to seeing you in the near future. In the meantime, please continue to keep our work in your prayers. You are in ours.

Sincerely,  
REDACTED

  
Curtis C. Bryant, SJ, PhD  
Director, Inpatient Clinical Services  
REDACTED

Enclosure

cc: Reverend John Dawson

16837

June 15, 1993

CARDINAL ROGE~~X~~ M. MAHONY  
Archbishop of Los Angeles  
1531 West Ninth Street  
Los Angeles, Ca. 90015

Dear Cardinal Mahony,

Thank you for your support in my treatment at St. Luke's Institute and for allowing me to participate in their Half-Way House Program.

I have come to realize the seriousness of my addiction and the harm I have done to my victims, the Church and myself. I feel shame, guilt, and remorse. I am sorry for the harm I have done. I am resolved to stay in recovery and live a life of sobriety, and make amends for my behavior. I feel empathy towards those I have been involved with. I ask for your forgiveness.

I now want to share with you some of my other feelings. I feel hurt that since my intervention on December 14th I have not received any communications from anyone in leadership of the Church of Los Angeles with the exception of one letter from Msgr. Dyer dated April 30th. I felt hurt that there was no Christmas, Easter, nor get well cards during these past seven months. I feel hurt for my isolation from December 14 until my arrival at St. Luke's on January 6th. I feel hurt that I have been taken off the Diocesan mailings. I feel cut off from and abandoned by the Church of Los Angeles. I feel as if I am being treated as a leper.

I feel angry that after twenty-six years of service to the Church and eight years of specialized seminary training I have been abruptly cut off from ministry while I see at the same time religious orders and other Dioceses treat their priests differently and reclaim them for the Church. I feel angry that I have repented and am not being treated like the son in Luke 15:11. I am not disputing that I will not be put in charge of any portion of the estate, I feel like I have no place in the family upon my return. I feel angry that the decision of ministry was not influenced by my recovery or how I am now doing in treatment or where I am in recovery but on the initial evaluation of seven months ago.

I feel fear as I face an uncertain future. I feel fear that I am being abandoned by the Church. I feel fear that I will be left destitute.

16829

In order to stay in recovery and to avoid relapse I will need some time to organize and set up my recovery program. I need to go to frequent 12 step meetings, form and use a support group, have some kind of continued therapy, and continue to use my prescribed medication. I need to take time for my spiritual, mental, and physical health. In order to do all this I will not be able to hold down a full time job at least in the beginning of my recovery program when I leave St. Luke's.

I have some questions and the answers will help me plan for my future and recovery program.

1. Will you approve my participation in St. Luke's continuing care program? This includes returning to St. Luke's every sixth months for one week intervals.
2. What kind of recommendation can I expect from the Archdiocese as a reference for a potential employer?
3. If I need some retraining for a career change will you fund the retraining?
4. Msgr. Dyer mentioned that I could be housed in an apartment in Nazareth House or live at a place of my choice. I am now in the process of purchasing a Mobile Home in REDACTED I will find work in the Palm Springs area. Would you give me the amount that it would cost for the apartment at Nazareth House, that I could use toward the monthly rental of the Mobile Home space and for my food.
5. How long will my salary continue?
6. Since I do not own a car will you approve a cash allowance to help me purchase a car?
7. Would it be possible to receive retirement for medical reasons?
8. Would I BE KEPT ON medical insurance and for how long? Will the insurance cover continued therapy after St. Luke's and the continued use of my prescribed medications: REDACTED  
REDACTED
9. If I stay accountable to the Archdiocese, and if I remain in a recovery, and live a life of sobriety for a period of time, would it be possible to find some ministry for me, even part time?

Finally, my priesthood is very precious and valuable to me, and I am not contemplating laicization. I am at your service and the service of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, Please continue to keep me and the healing ministry of St. Luke Institute in your prayers.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*John H. Dawson*

John H. Dawson

16830



15 June 1993

Rev. Msgr. Timothy Dyer  
Vicar for Clergy  
1531 West Ninth Street  
Los Angeles, Ca. 90015-1194

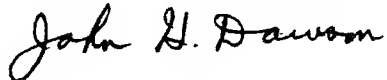
Dear Tim,

Thank you for your visit on April 15 and also for your letter of April 30th, expressing your concern and support.

It would be of help to me if you would present to His Eminence the enclosed letter

May God bless you and please keep me in your Prayers.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John H. Dawson".

John H. Dawson

16828

MEMORANDUMJune 21, 1983

TO: Cardinal Mahony  
 FROM: Father Timothy Dyer  
 RE: Fr. John Dawson

Attached is an interim report on Fr. Dawson's progress at REDACTED in response to our recent request for such information.

In addition to the cover letter, REDACTED spoke to me by phone and asked me to make clear to you her apologies over the misunderstandings generated by her sending a list of questions on Fr. Dawson's behalf. She said to assure you that she understood your reasons for being upset and that this would not be repeated. (She was willing to call or write to you personally, but I said I would convey her thoughts and sentiments.)

I directed REDACTED to have Fr. Dawson participate in the "half way" program prior to his return to Los Angeles to give us further indications of his ability to maintain sexual sobriety through 12-step programs and house supervision as well as to allow more time to consider options for his future.

I will be going to REDACTED on July 6th, along with REDACTED, to visit both Fr. Dawson and REDACTED. Prior to that time, we should meet to discuss their return and provisions for housing, etc.

*has no input - I am not  
 my input in this case*

*RMB*

*6-21-83*

16835



# Saint Luke Institute

## CONTINUING CARE CONTRACT

Patient: John H. Dawson

Saint Luke Institute #: REDACTED

Admission Date: January 6, 1993

Discharge Date: June 29, 1993

Primary Therapist: REDACTED

Admitting Physician

I, John H. Dawson, enter into this contract with Saint Luke Institute for a period of three months beginning June 29, 1993. At the end of three months, in consultation with REDACTED and my primary therapist, I will review this contract and make any revisions deemed appropriate. Having completed the inpatient program at Saint Luke Institute, I agree to live a lifestyle congruent with the recovery process while in treatment. I agree to abide by the rules, philosophy, and spirit of Saint Luke's half-way house program under the direction of REDACTED and supervision of REDACTED

### PSYCHOSEXUAL HEALTH

1. I will strive to maintain my bottom line of complete sexual abstinence.
2. I will attend at least four (4) SA Twelve Step meetings a week.
3. Within one month I will choose a temporary SA/SLAA sponsor. I will share with that person my contract, intimacy needs, and budding signs. I will share with my sponsor my story, and meet with or call that person on a regular basis and discuss my concerns and my program of recovery.
4. I will continue therapy at Saint Luke Institute as directed, which includes both individual and group therapy.
5. I will continue my present medication under the direction of Dr. REDACTED  
REDACTED
6. I will continue to work the Twelve Step program of SA/SLAA with my sponsor and the members of these fellowships.

16831

Continuing Care Contract - Page 2  
John Dawson REDACTED

#### PHYSICAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

1. I will attend one OA meeting a week.
2. Within one month I will choose an OA sponsor.
3. I will meet with my sponsor regularly and call my sponsor weekly.
4. I will be responsible for eating a healthy, moderate and well-balanced diet.
5. I will exercise at least three times a week for 20-40 minutes.

#### EMOTIONAL AND INTRAPSYCHIC HEALTH

1. I will stay connected with my REDACTED and adult friends in Los Angeles.
2. I will continue to stay connected with friends I have made in the Saint Luke Institute community and share openly and honestly all my feelings.
3. I will continue to make new friends in the Twelve Step fellowships.

#### SPIRITUAL LIFE AND GROWTH

1. I will set time aside each day for personal prayer and meditation.
2. I will choose a spiritual director within two months.
3. I will become part of a worshipping community and participate at least once a week.

#### VOCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

I will actively participate in writing a resume, job search and vocational development under the direction of REDACTED

#### ACCOUNTABILITY

I will continue to be accountable to REDACTED  
primary therapist, and various sponsors.

my

16832

Continuing Care Contract - Page 3  
John Dawson REDACTED

John H. Dawson  
John H. Dawson  
Patient  
REDACTED

16 June 1993  
Date

Curtis C. Bryant, SJ, PhD  
Curtis C. Bryant, SJ, PhD  
Director, Inpatient Clinical Services  
REDACTED

6-18-93  
Date

REDACTED

16833

MEMORANDUMJune 21, 1993

TO: Cardinal Mahony  
FROM: Father Timothy Dyer  
RE: Fr. John Dawson

Attached is an interim report on Fr. Dawson's progress at St. Luke's in response to our recent request for such information.

In addition to the cover letter, REDACTED spoke to me by phone and asked me to make clear to you her apologies over the misunderstandings generated by her sending a list of questions on Fr. Dawson's behalf. She said to assure you that she understood your reasons for being upset and that this would not be repeated. (She was willing to call or write to you personally, but I said I would convey her thoughts and sentiments.)

I directed the Institute to have Fr. Dawson participate in the "half way" program prior to his return to Los Angeles to give us further indications of his ability to maintain sexual sobriety through 12-step programs and house supervision as well as to allow more time to consider options for his future.

I will be going to St. Luke's on July 6th, along with REDACTED, to visit both Fr. Dawson and REDACTED. Prior to that time, we should meet to discuss their return and provisions for housing, etc.

*Keep me informed - I am not  
very hopeful in this case.*

*+ RTH*

*6-26-93*

16835



## *Saint Luke Institute*

June 24, 1993

**Confidential**

Monsignor Timothy J. Dyer, VG  
Vicar for Clergy  
1531 West 9th Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Re: Reverend John Dawson  
SLI NO: REDACTED

Dear Father Dyer:

Reverend John Dawson has completed inpatient treatment at Saint Luke Institute. He is being discharged 6/29/93 to our halfway program. Enclosed is a copy of Father Dawson's Continuing Care Contract which covers the next 3 months of halfway treatment.

Thank you for entrusting us with Father Dawson's care. We believe that his time here has been well spent and we are confident that he has benefitted substantially.

REDACTED

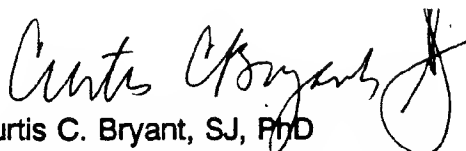
Monsignor Timothy J. Dyer  
Re: Reverend John Dawson - REDACTED

June 24, 1993  
Page 2

REDACTED

Please be assured that our prayers are in our hearts for your work. We hope you continue to keep us in your prayers as well.

Sincerely,  
REDACTED

  
Curtis C. Bryant, SJ, PhD  
Director, Inpatient Clinical Services  
REDACTED

REDACTED

cc: Reverend John Dawson

16810



MEMORANDUMJune 29, 1993

TO: Cardinal Mahony  
FROM: Father Timothy Dyer <sup>TS</sup>  
RE: Fr. Dawson Letter -- attached

I know we will need to talk about this. I want you to have a chance to look it over before we get together.

I leave for St. Luke's on July 6th.

I have re-attached the previous memo and report from St. Luke's -- as part of the response to Fr. Dawson will be shaped by their data.

*We still have no letter from Fr. Dawson -  
we should have that before we talk.  
+ RMD*

*6-30-93*

16834

*C-file*MEMORANDUMJuly 1, 1993

TO: Cardinal Mahony  
FROM: Father Timothy Dyer  
RE: Fr. Dawson

I sent you a memo on June 29th re "Fr. Dawson Letter -- attached".  
Well, it was not attached; neither was my head when I wrote the memo.  
This time the letter is attached; if I'm wrong, I'll send in my head...

*Let's chat -**+ Rm**7-10-93*

16827



# Saint Luke Institute

## CONTINUING CARE CONTRACT

REDACTED

Patient: John H. Dawson

Saint Luke Institute #:

Admission Date: January 6, 1993

Discharge Date: June 29, 1993

Primary Therapist: REDACTED

Admitting Physician

I, John H. Dawson, enter into this contract with Saint Luke Institute for a period of three months beginning June 29, 1993. At the end of three months, in consultation with REDACTED and my primary therapist, I will review this contract and make any revisions deemed appropriate. Having completed the inpatient program at Saint Luke Institute, I agree to live a lifestyle congruent with the recovery process while in treatment. I agree to abide by the rules, philosophy, and spirit of Saint Luke's half-way house program under the direction of REDACTED and supervision of REDACTED

### PSYCHOSEXUAL HEALTH

1. I will strive to maintain my bottom line of complete sexual abstinence.
2. I will attend at least four (4) SA Twelve Step meetings a week.
3. Within one month I will choose a temporary SA/SLAA sponsor. I will share with that person my contract, intimacy needs, and budding signs. I will share with my sponsor my story, and meet with or call that person on a regular basis and discuss my concerns and my program of recovery.
4. I will continue therapy at Saint Luke Institute as directed, which includes both individual and group therapy.
5. I will continue my present medication under the direction of Dr. REDACTED  
REDACTED
6. I will continue to work the Twelve Step program of SA/SLAA with my sponsor and the members of these fellowships.

16831

Continuing Care Contract - Page 2  
John Dawson REDACTED

#### PHYSICAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

1. I will attend one OA meeting a week.
2. Within one month I will choose an OA sponsor.
3. I will meet with my sponsor regularly and call my sponsor weekly.
4. I will be responsible for eating a healthy, moderate and well-balanced diet.
5. I will exercise at least three times a week for 20-40 minutes.

#### EMOTIONAL AND INTRAPSYCHIC HEALTH

1. I will stay connected with my REDACTED and adult friends in Los Angeles.
2. I will continue to stay connected with friends I have made in the REDACTED REDACTED community and share openly and honestly all my feelings.
3. I will continue to make new friends in the Twelve Step fellowships.

#### SPIRITUAL LIFE AND GROWTH

1. I will set time aside each day for personal prayer and meditation.
2. I will choose a spiritual director within two months.
3. I will become part of a worshipping community and participate at least once a week.

#### VOCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

I will actively participate in writing a resume, job search and vocational development under the direction of REDACTED

#### ACCOUNTABILITY

I will continue to be accountable to REDACTED  
primary therapist, and various sponsors.

my

16832

Continuing Care Contract - Page 3  
John Dawson REDACTED

John H. Dawson  
John H. Dawson  
Patient

16 June 1993  
Date

REDACTED

Curtis C. Bryant  
Curtis C. Bryant, SJ, PhD  
Director, Inpatient Clinical Services

6-18-93  
Date

REDACTED

REDACTED  
d&t 6-17-93

16833

C-file

MEMORANDUMJuly 1, 1993

TO: Cardinal Mahony  
FROM: Father Timothy Dyer  
RE: Fr. Dawson

I sent you a memo on June 29th re "Fr. Dawson Letter -- attached".  
Well, it was not attached; neither was my head when I wrote the memo.  
This time the letter is attached; if I'm wrong, I'll send in my head...

Let's chat -

- RMA

7-10-93

16827

## AN ADDITIONAL/ALTERNATIVE SERVICE FROM ST. LUKE INSTITUTE

### A HALFWAY HOUSE

In recent years the profile of priests and Religious coming to SLI for residential treatment has changed markedly. The treatment for some patients requires more time. The priest or Religious suffering from chemical abuse is frequently someone who has been in other treatment programs and is now in relapse. A number of patients leaving SLI are facing loss of ministry. Because of these factors, and due to the increasing emphasis on controlling expenses as a factor in hospital management, SLI is opening a Halfway House program.

The HWH program is of an initial three month duration and is designed to serve a number of SLI patients. Because it is within the Inpatient Treatment program, early detection will identify potential halfway house candidates from a variety of the population:

Relapse patients: Those who have received treatment previously and have experienced relapse.

Consolidation patients: Those who can profit from continuing therapy but who have exhausted their assigned residential Length of Stay.

Transition patients: Those who are leaving priesthood or Religious Life and need help with the attendant issues of beginning a new career.

The program has three dimensions:

I Therapeutic: Each patient receives a minimum of one individual therapy per week, two group therapy sessions per week, as well as one to three theme groups per week, dealing with such topics as victim empathy, relapse, career change, social and vocational skills, anger and forgiveness, grief and loss, 12 Step living.

II Occupational: A weekly work schedule is required of each resident. Residents are assisted in transitioning to new careers where necessary, volunteer and educational options are also available.

III Community: The focus is on respect for the people, places and things which aid in each person's recovery. The day begins and ends with a scheduled community spiritual program, the residents are responsible for house-keeping duties and are mutually accountable.

The halfway house program will be housed in facilities adjacent to St. Luke Institute. At the present time two houses have been designated for this purpose and an on-site manager will be responsible for the day-to-day operation of the program.

The total cost depends on the particulars of the therapeutic process, but at the present time it is estimated that the charge per month will be in the order of [REDACTED] (about one third of the cost of residential treatment!) The minimum stay will be for three months and can be renewed by mutual agreement with the resident and the sponsoring superior

## GOALS AND ADMISSION CRITERIA #2

DIAGNOSED FOR TREATMENT	GOALS OF INPATIENT TREATMENT	HALF WAY HOUSE ADMISSION CRITERIA	HALF WAY HOUSE DISCHARGE CRITERIA
<p><b>SUBSTANCE ADDICTIONS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alcohol</li> <li>Hallucinogenic</li> <li>Prescription Drugs</li> <li>Pain Killers</li> </ul> <p><b>BEHAVIOR ADDICTION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inappropriate Sexual Behavior</li> <li>Spending</li> <li>Eating</li> </ul> <p><b>UNI OR BI-POLAR DEPRESSION (Affective Disorders)</b></p> <p><b>UNINTEGRATED SEXUALITY</b></p> <p><b>DISTURBANCES IN RELATIONSHIPS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chronically Alienated, Chronically Angry, Chronically Tired, Chronically Lazy, Chronically Over Working</li> </ul> <p><b>THOUGHT DISORDERS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low Self-esteem, Poor Reality Awareness, Irrational Thinking, Perfectionist, Behavior, Scrupulosity.</li> </ul> <p><b>RELAPSE INTO PREVIOUS BEHAVIORS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Treatment at outpatient levels were not effective.</li> <li>Potential danger to re-offend/abuse.</li> <li>Diminished capacity for self-care</li> <li>Diminished respect for others</li> <li>Unable to frame adequate boundaries</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recognize that patient has a serious problem: for which he/she has responsibility, and that the problem has had consequences: ie Victims</li> <li>2. Come to appreciate the self defeating destructive nature of such behavior, and the serious consequences toward the victim(s) and oneself.</li> <li>3. Re-evaluate the patient's attitudes and values toward sexuality, mood altering substances, power, and control.</li> <li>4. Accept that this behavior has "triggers", a sequence of thoughts, feelings, circumstances and arousal stimuli which precedes such behavior.</li> <li>5. Accept that there are ways (tools) of breaking into this offense pattern which must be learned.</li> <li>6. Develop alternative and more appropriate modes of self-expression, need gratification and impulse management through therapy, education and experience.</li> <li>7. Accept that the problem is chronic, that it cannot be cured but can be treated; that it cannot be eliminated, but can be controlled, and that the patient must face and work on it, perhaps for the rest of his/her life.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The patient exhibits psychiatric symptoms of sufficient severity to bring about significant impairment in day-to-day social, vocational and/or educational functioning.</li> <li>2. The patient is able to exhibit adequate control over his/her behavior and is judged not to be immediately dangerous to self or others.</li> <li>3. The patient has a community based network of support that assists in maintaining the patient within a least restrictive environment.</li> <li>4. The patient has capacity for active participation in all phases of the program.</li> <li>5. The patient is ready for discharge from an inpatient setting. But is judged to be in continued need of daily monitoring, support and ongoing therapeutic intervention.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The patient's clinical condition has improved as reflected in symptom relief and reduced interference with social, vocational and/or educational goals to such a degree as to warrant a treatment regiment of less intensity.</li> <li>2. Treatment goals have been accomplished as established in the patient's individualized treatment plan.</li> <li>3. The patient is able to return to increased levels of independence in day-to-day activities and is judged to no longer require the intensity of supervision, support, and therapeutic intervention provided by the partial hospitalization program.</li> </ol>



# TENTATIVE      HALFWAY HOUSE ( HEREAFTER HWH) GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

## GOALS:

To continue the healing process for those who have been patients in the In-patient Residential program at St Luke Institute by living in an non-institutional setting featuring monitoring, support and on-going therapeutic involvement.

To consolidate the therapeutic progress begun in that program and facilitate return to the sending institution, or

To prepare for the transition to a career which excludes sacramental ministry.

The Half Way House seeks to do this by requiring the participants:

To model a balanced Recovery Life Style in terms of healthy spiritual, physical , emotional, financial and relational attitudes and behaviors

To behave in respectful ways toward the people, places and things which go to make up the living environment in the HWH

To contribute to the life in the house by being responsible for maintaining a clean, sober standard of behavior which is spelled out below.

## OBJECTIVES:

### SPIRITUAL:

" .....praying only for knowledge of His will and the power to carry that out" . (Step 11)

Each day begins with a period of prayer and meditation in which each resident will seek the knowledge and power for the day at hand.

The day ends 'by taking personal inventory',( Step 10) once again in quiet reflection.

These exercises take place in common, in the living room.

### PHYSICAL:

One method of modelling inter-dependent and responsible life-style is to perform the ordinary day-to-day tasks of living outside the institution. Breakfast is at the house, as is lunch. Each resident will be responsible for his/her own laundry and some phase of the maintenance of the common areas of the house:

bathrooms, hallways, the kitchen, the laundry room etc. House work and shopping duties rotate bi-weekly. Healthy living includes a daily exercise period, arranged and agreed upon with the House Manager or therapist.

#### EMOTIONAL:

The transition following a number of months of in-depth psychological therapy is not an easy one. We seek to facilitate this transition by means of two therapy groups per week. In addition, each resident will continue individual therapy with his/her In-patient therapist as appropriate. Patient Staff Reviews will be held monthly. The other daily in-house groups are designed to support this therapeutic regime.

#### FINANCIAL:

Openness about such behaviors as budgeting, saving, and financial planning will all be topics addressed regularly in house meetings and in individual sessions. Each resident is expected to spend a substantial part of the week engaged in work, job search, education or volunteer service.

#### RELATIONAL:

Behavior change is the cornerstone of recovery. Changing the traditional way of relating to one another and to society at large will be a constant focus in groups and in personal interactions within the house. Secrecy and vagueness in this area are major factors in relapse. Budding Signs and Intimacy Needs will guide the attention in sharing with fellow residents.

#### DURATION:

This is a three month program, with extensions negotiated with the contract signatories. During this time residents' behavior is reviewed and feedback given.

## TENTATIVE

## PROGRAM ELEMENTS

3

Monday    Tuesday    Wednesday    Thursday    Friday

## WK I

Psycho- therapy	Twelve Steps 1,2,3, 4&5	Relapse Prevention	Psycho- therapy	Grief Resent- ment
--------------------	----------------------------------	-----------------------	--------------------	--------------------------

## WK II

Psycho- therapy	Twelve Steps 6,7,8,9	Strategies for Living	Psycho- therapy	Anger Forgiv- ness
--------------------	----------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------	--------------------------

The Wednesday and Friday Group times has not been established.

There will also be a Thursday 'House Keeping' meeting at 6:00 pm. weekly

The projected Monday through Friday schedule:

6:45	Prayer and Meditation, reflection in common in the living room
7:00	Breakfast, house duties
7:30	Group    In Living room
8:50	End of Group
9:00	Leave for work, volunteer placement etc
5:00	Dinner at SLI cafeteria Exercise    recreation, etc
7:30	12 Step Meetings, Sponsor, Work on Steps
10:15	Personal Inventory, in living room

16820

## TENTATIVE

## HWH RECOVERY CALENDER

The HWH program is designed to enable the resident to reach the stated goals of the consolidation of therapeutic gains made during residential treatment and thereby return to active ministry or to begin the process of transitioning to a new career and lifestyle which will not include sacramental ministry.

While psychotherapy continues to be the 'motor' of this process, the 'chassis and body' of the vehicle is the 12 Steps. Each person is responsible for his/her own recovery, and the HWH program is designed to provide a setting where the principles underlying the 12 Steps can be learned and practiced. Self-discipline and Victim Empathy ( Steps 6, 7, 8,&9) are featured.

## DAILY:

" praying only for knowledge of His will and the power to carry that out"

Step 11: Each day will begin with a period of XI step prayer and meditation in which the resident will anticipate the day.

Step 10: Each evening the day will end with a X step 'taking a personal inventory' in common quiet time.

WEEKLY: There will be a formal group in which some aspect of the 12 Step program is discussed.

# Specific Expectations for Each Resident

By DAY 10 Date_____	Write out " Decision to turn ..will and life.." and share with_____
By DAY 21 Date_____	Have a [temporary] sponsor
By DAY 30 Date_____	Have a Spiritual Director
By DAY 30 Date_____	Begin writing out a 4th step
By DAY 60 Date_____	Complete 5th Step, identify some character defects
By DAY 66 Date:_____	Discuss Character Defects with group
By DAY 67 Date:_____	Formally ask God to remove defects ( Community celebration) Begin working on amends
By Day 89 Date_____	Have completed a list of people harmed, commitment to make amends

Consequences to past behavior and victim empathy are seen as vital for relapse prevention. The details of amends-making are important material for therapy.

SAINT LUKE INSTITUTE  
HALF WAY HOUSE ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ WEEK OF \_\_\_\_\_

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
9:00							
10:00							
11:00							
12:00							
1:00							
2:00							
3:00							
4:00							
7:00							
9:00							
10:15	BACK	IN	SAINT	LUKE	INSTITUTE	EACH	DAY

TENTATIVE                      Weekly Activities Log  
Prepared for the House Manager to receive on the preceeding Sunday evening

SIDE I                      A Calender of the Week , Monday to Sunday

SIDE II

My Work /Study/Volunteer Goals this week are\_\_\_\_\_

My Recovery Focus this week is \_\_\_\_\_

I will need the community's help to\_\_\_\_\_

In particular, I will ask\_\_\_\_\_for help

with\_\_\_\_\_

My individual Therapy appointment is\_\_\_\_\_

My 12 Step meetings will be\_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor\_\_\_\_\_ Spiritual Director\_\_\_\_\_

This week I think I will spend        \$\_\_\_\_\_

My housework duties are\_\_\_\_\_

For recreation/exercise I will\_\_\_\_\_

On the weekend I would like to\_\_\_\_\_

I need the House Manager's assistance to \_\_\_\_\_

I am in Week \_\_\_\_\_ of the Halfway house program and I feel \_\_\_\_\_

Signed\_\_\_\_\_

16824

## TENTATIVE

## SOME CRITERIA FOR HEALTHY POST-WHW LIVING

An understanding and acceptance of the primacy which must be given to victim empathy

A demonstrated capacity for self-care

A commitment to well-being:

Physical  
Mental/emotional  
Social  
Sexual  
Vocational  
Financial  
Spiritual

Respect for others (ie a clear articulation of one's understanding of:)

Responsibility for one's behavior.  
Intimacy needs.  
Awareness of ability at conflict resolution.  
The use of principles and tools when experiencing anger.  
The ability to have legitimate needs met through negotiation rather than manipulation.

## REALITY CHECK QUESTIONS:

Objective perspective about oneself and ability to answer questions about one's psychic function:

How long does it take you to work through anger?  
How can you recognize depression?  
What does your fear look like?  
What does your lust look like?  
What does your sloth look like?  
What does your shame look like?  
What does your avarice look like?  
What does your envy/jealousy look like?  
What are your sexual fantasies?

What behaviors have changed in regards to:

Anger  
Resentments  
Control  
Authority  
Your Spiritual Life



# TENTATIVE ELEMENTS OF A HWH CONTRACT

## CONTENTS:

Budding Signs and Intimacy Needs as prepared prior to departure,

Revised Master Treatment Plan which will include a recognition of progress made in residential treatment,

A statement of goals to be achieved during the stay in the HWH.

## EXPECTATIONS FROM SLI:

SLI provides one individual and two group therapies per week as well as a variety of other programs to assist the resident meet the stated goals. SLI provides an environment for growth and recovery

## EXPECTATIONS FROM THE RESIDENTS:

Abstention from all mood altering drugs and sexual activity.

Co-operation with the recommendations of the SLI medical staff as regards medications, tests, etc.

Participation in the daily schedule of the HWH.

A commitment to recovery which will be measured by behavior as set down in the HWH Goals and Objectives and in the Recovery Calendar.

A commitment to behave in ways which respect the people, places and things which make up the HWH environment,

A commitment to engage in work search, obtain a temporary job and/or engage in volunteer work, and

A commitment to contribute to the maintenance of the house by doing house work, as well as shopping for and preparing meals.

Openness as regards social, financial, recovery and leisure behaviors.

Contract to be signed by:

Resident  
Superior  
Therapist  
HWH Manager and Supervisor

COST: \$3000.00 per Month

DURATION: 3 Months, renewable by mutual negotiation.



FR Dawson John - C  
COPY

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of  
Vicar for Clergy  
(213) 251-3284

1531  
West Ninth  
Street

Los Angeles  
California  
90015-1104

July 23, 1993

Rev. John Dawson  
St. Luke Institute  
2420 Brooks Drive  
Suitland, MD 20746-5294

Dear John:

As Cardinal Mahony has been away from the office for the better part of the last three weeks, and as I am leaving on vacation today and will not return until August 17, I must inform you that an outline of the plan for your return cannot be sent to you at this time. I will attend to it upon my return.

I trust that the program in the Halfway House is proceeding well. I am today sending a draft of a possible referral letter to our Archdiocesan attorney for approval, after which a final version will be sent to you.

May God bless you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

(Rev. Msgr.) Timothy J. Dyer  
Vicar for Clergy

REDACTED

16807

● DRAFT

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

John Dawson <sup>served in</sup> was employed by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in a position of parish administration from July 1984 through December 1992.

Prior to that, he served as an Associate in a number of parishes over a period of 17 years.

We support him in his search for new employment.

---

(Rev. Msgr.) Timothy J. Dyer  
Vicar for Clergy

16806



---

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of  
Vicar for Clergy  
(213) 251-3284

1531  
West Ninth  
Street

Los Angeles  
California  
90015-1194

---

August 2, 1993

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

John Dawson served in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in a position of parish administration from July 1984 through December 1992.

Prior to that, he served as an Associate in a number of parishes over a period of 17 years.

We support him in his search for new employment.

---

(Rev. Msgr.) Timothy J. Dyer  
Vicar for Clergy

16804

CONFIDENTIAL  
MEMORANDUM

COPY

September 15, 1993

TO: Cardinal Mahony  
FROM: Father Timothy Dyer  
RE: Priests Departing Ministry

REDACTED

When I went to [REDACTED] last week, I studied their plan --which I do not endorse -- but which has the advantage of having reached the status of "policy" to be followed in each case. In brief, Chicago does not use our type of 4-options plan following residential treatment for their seriously affected priests. [REDACTED] never tells a priest that he is completely severed from the Archdiocese (our 4th option). Chicago instead lays out a highly restricted plan for someone who would by our standards be told to leave ministry and tells that priest that if he himself decides to leave, the Archdiocese would offer him an "exit package": therapeutic coverage for up to three years; up to \$[REDACTED] for re-tooling; [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] for residential and living expenses; up to 18 months' health insurance and 12 months' car insurance; and a small sum (dependent on years in ministry) in lieu of retirement funds. (They estimate the total cost per priest to be somewhere between \$85,000 and \$100,000).

We are presently facing the cases of REDACTED  
REDACTED and John Dawson (both "fourth option"). I have kept REDACTED on base salary with medical insurance - pending his appointment with you. I am going back to see John Dawson at the end of the month -- at which time he will be leaving the Halfway House program to return home. His requests, as you know, amount to the kind of exit package offered by Chicago.

I think it is time we draft our own policy and, if you agree, would like to know how you would want us to go about doing so.

16801



## *Saint Luke Institute*

**CONFIDENTIAL**

September 23, 1993

Reverend Monsignor Timothy Dyer  
Vicar for Clergy  
Archdiocese of Los Angeles  
1531 West Ninth Street  
Los Angeles, California 90015-1194

RE: Reverend John Dawson  
SLI NO: REDACTED

Dear Monsignor Dyer:

This letter discusses Father Dawson's transition status from inpatient to our Halfway House Treatment Program.

REDACTED

Reverend Monsignor Timothy Dyer  
RE: Reverend John Dawson - SLI NO:

REDACTED

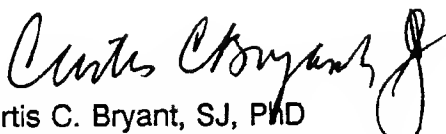
September 23 1993  
Page 2

REDACTED

As always, I will keep you posted on his progress. Please continue to keep us in your prayers. You are in ours.

Sincerely,  
REDACTED

REDACTED

  
Curtis C. Bryant, SJ, PhD  
Director, Inpatient Clinical Services

cc: Reverend John Dawson  
REDACTED

16800

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUMSeptember 25, 1993

TO: Cardinal Mahony  
 FROM: Father Timothy Dyer <sup>73</sup>  
 RE: Fr. John Dawson

Attached is a report from the St. Luke's Halfway House re the condition of Fr. Dawson. I got a call from REDACTED Phd. informing me of the gravity of the situation. He says that Fr. Dawson remains at great risk both to himself and the community and should not be given the freedom to live on his own at this point.

The Halfway House setting has been valuable in that the Staff at St. Luke's got a better sense of what Fr. Dawson would be like outside the confines of the hospital. REDACTED says the recommendation is for a facility which can monitor his behavior (eg. Isaac Ray Center in Chicago, Ditmar in the Archdiocese of St. Louis and the Cherry Valley center -- run by the Paracletes; we are checking on all of these facilities prior to seeing Fr. Dawson at St. Luke's this week).

*yes* This seems to put "on-hold" the idea of giving him a financial package with which he could begin independent living upon his return. In addition there is the very likely possibility of lawsuits at some point in Fr. Dawson's future. Although we have checked out comments from two parishioners at St. Sebastian's, we have been unable to contact anyone who alleges actual molestation of youngsters. Since Fr. Dawson has admitted, during therapy at St. Luke's, to contact with 11 minors (none of which was admitted here at the time of the intervention), I am checking with REDACTED as to our responsibility in this regard -- as nothing has been reported to the authorities nor help sought by any *yes* *and* *<*

*go - deal with* REDACTED  
*one with steps -*  
*RNM*  
*9-27-93*

16798



John D. / REDACTED

9/30 // S.J.C.

- J. does not take transitions well. I need to move.  
carefully prepare for next move. / External changes → being internally empty.
- Letter to REDACTED for REDACTED // Conversations w. staff there & REDACTED
- Need to set up a precise set of goals for the next place...
- when J isn't fully comfortable... ~~he let go~~ <sup>let</sup> he beg. to let go of recovery group
- The goal.

16795

John Dawson / REDACTED

9/30 // J.T.L.

Anxiety + Compulsivity = his issues

- too anxious to make 20 phone calls / day at Halfway H.
- needs a mentor, supervisor, someone to tell him what to do next...
- needs therapy — is v. impaired
- if he breaks down, he's going to go out and
- he needs support — w. other groups — <sup>has been</sup> <sup>more forward</sup>
- Needs extremely structured environment.
- Personal oversight + attention
- We've tried medications to reduce anxiety. — works for a time / ~~It's~~ <sup>he's</sup> <sup>regressed</sup> <sup>now</sup> <sup>overweight</sup> — not will be "drunk + a kid"
- Without oversight — he will not do what he's supposed to do or say, he'll do — eg. stopped going to the required # of SAT mtgs/week

⇒ Take credit for the Halfway H where he came apart — something we had no idea...

John Dawson / REDACTED

"in Halfway H" 9/30 // J.T.L.

- A+ (H) — meaning over loss of ritual. (depression)
- 1st inclination — to be a bartender. Help given him to see the world is a danger
- Shut down one idea of looking for a job...

16796

## NOTES

- Shut down w. anxiety over his brother's upcoming visit
- ~~Guest brought over~~ Thought then of nursing — <sup>showed it wouldn't work.</sup>
- Descrip in group over what it was like for him to go looking for a kid (to molest) — whole group was anxious over J's plan to go back + live in his Calif. trailer.
- eg. of faulty thinking: sounded rational (detailed, organized thinking) to become a nurse. But the thinking was a vacuum — as if all the info on him here at SCI weren't taken into acct.
- Another portrait: Sent \$15,000 check to buy a ~~trailer~~ trailer — without ~~any~~ <sup>any</sup> consult. — later had to cancel check + is now being sued for breach of contract. He won't tell you the things he's doing — signing decisions —————> ∴ the need for oversight
- Development: An artist a getting negative attn. — eg. "forgets" to get ~~him~~ REDACTED
- We're trying to frame for J. that he's a youngster seeking negative attn.
- He sometimes gets muddled in thinking that when told he's ~~seen~~ seen to need more help he thinks he needs.

16797

Notes from September 30, 1993 Meeting  
St. Luke Institute

CONFIDENTIAL

John Dawson/REDACTED

Anxiety + compulsivity = his issues

- Too anxious to make 20 phone calls/day at Halfway House
- Needs a mama, supervisor, someone to tell him what to do next...
- Needs tracking - is very impaired
- if he breaks down, he's going to go act out.
- needs support - with other group - he can move forward
  - needs extremely structured environment
  - personal oversight and attention
- We've tried medications to reduce anxiety - works for a time. He's regressed with food-now overweight -- next will be "drinks and a kid"
- Without oversight he will not do what he's supposed to do or says he'll do - e.g. stopped going to the required number of SLA meetings weekly

Thank God for the Halfway House where he came apart - something we had no idea

John Dawson/REDACTED

'in Halfway House September 30

- at first - mourning over loss of priesthood (depression)
- First inclination - to be a bartender. Help given him to see that would be a danger
- Shut down over idea of looking for a job.
- Shut down with anxiety over REDACTED's upcoming visit.
- Thought then of nursing - show it wouldn't work.
- Description in group over what it was like for him to go looking for a kid (to molest) - whole group became anxious over John's plan to go back and live in his California trailer.
- Example of faulty thinking: sounded rational (detailed, organized thinking) to become a nurse. But the thinking was a vacuum - as if all the information on him here at St. Luke Institute weren't taken into account.
- Another portrait: Sent [REDACTED] check to buy a trailer - without any consultation. Later had to cancel check and is now being sued for breach of contract. He won't tell you the things he's doing - significant decisions -- need for oversight.
- Development: An artist getting negative attention, e.g., "forgets" to get his REDACTED  
REDACTED
- We're trying to frame for John that he's a youngster seeking negative attention.
- He sometimes gets insulted in therapy that when told he's seen to need more help than he thinks he needs.

John Dawson/REDACTED

September 30

- John does not take transitions well. Need to move carefully-prepare for next move/External changes bring internal eruptions.
- Letter to REDACTED for Archdiocese//Conversations with staff here and REDACTED
- Need to set up a precise set of goals for the next place
- When John isn't feeling comfortable, he begins to let go of recovery program
- The goal

16794



## MEMORANDUM

CONFIDENTIAL

October 14, 1993

TO: CARDINAL MAHONY

FROM: REDACTED

RE: REV. JOHN DAWSON

After visiting John Dawson at St. Luke Institute, Monsignor Dyer and I are recommending that he continue his treatment at Albuquerque Villa, a Paraclete facility.

The report of September 23 (copy attached), which you have already received, clearly indicates that Father Dawson is not at all ready to resume independent living. Father REDACTED of Albuquerque Villa has a program structured to help a priest already treated for his primary sexual problem to adjust to living the life of a working lay person who is not a threat to young people. No other facility we investigated came close to filling the bill in this regard.

Only time will tell how much help, over how much time, John Dawson will need to remain no threat to others.

Monsignor Dyer and I will be meeting with REDACTED to clarify the legal aspects of John Dawson's returning to California at all.

Father Dawson himself is quite willing to transfer to Albuquerque and is open to making somewhere other than California his home.

*Don't like the best move for now -*

*+ RMM*

*10-16-93*

16791

SAINT LUKE INSTITUTE  
2420 Brooks Drive  
Suitland, MD 10746

CONTINUING CARE CONTRACT

Patient: John H. Dawson                      Saint Luke Institute #: REDACTED

Date of Continuing Care Admission: 10-29-93

Therapist: REDACTED

I, John H. Dawson, enter into this contract with Saint Luke Institute beginning at the time of my discharge, October 29, 1993. At the end of six months, I will review this contract with my continuing care therapist and make any necessary revisions. This contract will be given to "The Villa" represented by REDACTED

The terms of the contract are as follows:

PSYCHOSEXUAL HEALTH

1. My goal is complete sexual abstinence.
2. I will abstain from all alcoholic beverages, substances containing alcohol, and all mood altering drugs.
3. I will continue my present medication under the direction of both Dr. REDACTED and my new Paraclete's facility doctor: REDACTED  
REDACTED
4. I will maintain a minimum of four Twelve Step meetings a week (Two SA, SLAA, one AA, one OA).
5. I will make phone contact with my sponsors weekly for the next six months and whenever a need arises. I will get a temporary sponsor within one month of arrival in New Mexico.
6. I will participate in all therapy sessions as arranged by "The Villa" in Albuquerque, NM and recognize the need for a structured/monitored environment.
7. I will form a support group of between six-eight members. My sponsors and spiritual director will be part of this group.
8. I will not seek or work in an environment directly with adolescent boys or where alcohol is served.

16788

Continuing Care Contract - Page 2  
John H. Dawson REDACTED

#### EMOTIONAL/PHYSICAL HEALTH

1. I will exercise at least 30 minutes three times a week.
2. I will continue to maintain a healthy, moderate, well-balanced diet as I have been following at REDACTED

#### SPIRITUAL HEALTH

1. I will obtain a spiritual director and meet with him at least once a month.
2. I will participate in the spiritual life at "The Villa."
3. I will join and participate in, at least weekly, a Christian community.
4. I will pray at least 30 minutes each day privately.
5. I will read Steps Three and Eleven every week from the Twelve and Twelve book.

#### VOCATIONAL HEALTH

1. I will explore the possibility of vocational re-training.
2. I will obtain a part-time/full-time job, always keeping sobriety as my first priority.

#### ACCOUNTABILITY

1. I will stay accountable to the Archdiocese of Los Angeles through REDACTED Tim Dyer or REDACTED and my Saint Luke Institute continuing care therapist, REDACTED and REDACTED of "The Villa."
2. I will be accountable to my sponsors regarding my participation in Twelve Step programs.
3. I will make a phone call once a week to my continuing care therapist at Saint Luke Institute until the time of my re-entry workshop.

#### CONTINUING CARE

1. I will host a re-entry workshop at "The Villa" within two months after departure from Saint Luke Institute. I shall invite to this workshop my continuing care therapist and members of my support group.

16789

Continuing Care Contract - Page 3  
John H. Dawson REDACTED

2. I will attend continuing care workshops at the Saint Luke Institute for six years. For the first three years, these workshops will be at six-month intervals; the remaining three will be at one-year intervals.

John H. Dawson  
John H. Dawson  
Patient

10/28/93  
Date

REDACTED

REDACTED  
REDACTED  
REDACTED

REDACTED

d&t 10-20-93

16790



C-FILE     JOHN DAWSON

Summary of telephone conversation with REDACTED

Goals for John Dawson when admitted to Albuquerque Villa were:

- 1) aid in transition from clerical to lay life
- 2) preparation for lay employment
- 3) establish a recovery protocol (program meetings, therapy, appropriate medication) which would offer realistic protection from acting out in the future

Fr. REDACTED Dr. REDACTED are concerned that since

- 1) REDACTED
- 2) his limited personality development and lack of work experience, the risk of only menial employment
- 3) he shows little evidence of the kind of insight needed to make a recovery program work on his own

They don't feel goal number three is realizable under present conditions.

As a next step, Dr. REDACTED suggests that REDACTED be given a wider range of choice in terms of medication and therapy. What happens if he stops medication and progresses through the program? Can anyone else, can they begin to see what John needs? REDACTED

Provided this course is approved by REDACTED with it.

16783



## *Saint Luke Institute*

November 1, 1993

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Monsignor Timothy J. Dyer  
Vicar for Clergy  
Archdiocese of Los Angeles  
1531 West 9th Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Re: Reverend John Dawson  
REDACTED

Dear Monsignor Dyer:

Father John Dawson has completed his halfway house treatment at Saint Luke Institute and was discharged on October 29, 1993 to "The Villa" in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Enclosed is a copy of Father Dawson's Continuing Care Contract which covers the first 6 months after discharge. REDACTED LGSW is Father Dawson's continuing care therapist and will be your contact person if you have any concerns during the continuing care period. Her telephone number is REDACTED

Thank you for entrusting us with Father Dawson's care. We believe that his time here has been well spent. We are confident that although he has a long way to go he has benefitted substantially, from both inpatient and halfway house programs.

REDACTED

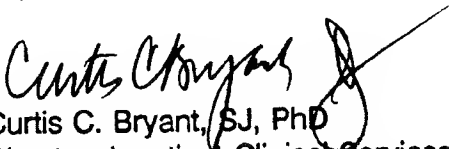
Monsignor Timothy J. Dyer  
Re: Reverend John Dawson - REDACTED

November 1, 1993  
Page 2

REDACTED

I am pleased to have had the opportunity to assist Father Dawson in his recovery process. Please be assured that our prayers are for your diocese and the work you undertake on behalf of Christ's Church. If you have any questions regarding discharge information, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely yours,  
REDACTED

  
Curtis C. Bryant, SJ, PhD  
Director, Inpatient Clinical Services

REDACTED

cc: Reverend John Dawson  
Enclosure

16787

MEMORANDUMNovember 10, 1993

TO: Cardinal Mahony

FROM: Father Timothy Dyer

RE: Fr. John Dawson

Attached is the final report and After Care contract from St. Luke's Institute for Fr. John Dawson.

*Still not my proving!*

*+ RMM*

*11-11-93*

16785

CONFIDENTIAL

C-File

NOTES FROM MONSIGNOR DYER FOR JOHN DAWSON CONFIDENTIAL FILE

Turned over for transcription in December 1993

John Dawson, REDACTED

REDACTED says he was molested by Dawson 21 years ago while Dawson was assigned at Mount Carmel Parish (Santa Barbara).

Three priests took me to Palm Springs in ninth year--got me drunk--Dawson molested me while one of the others watched...

My brother was also molested and nearly committed suicide.

I have had to take a leave of absence from my job (a very good one) to deal with this...

I am willing to take a polygraph...

16768

REDACTED

December 8, 1993

Rev. Timothy Dyer,

After much consideration, I have decided to undertake legal action against the Archdiocese of Los Angeles as a result of the sexual molestation infliction upon me by Father John Dawson when I was a child. As a result of my counseling, I now realize the emotional damage I have incurred as a result of the molestation.

I hold the Catholic Church fully responsible for the molestation and intend to go public with this molestation, if it is warranted. The required paperwork will be filed shortly by my attorney, requesting damages in the amount of \$14 million dollars.

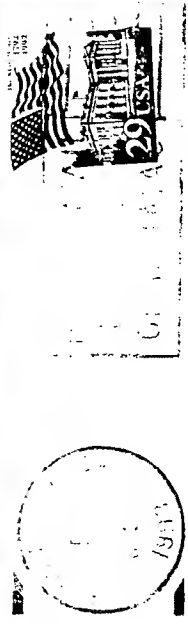
Sincerely,  
REDACTED

cc: Bishop Mahoney

16778

REDACTED

REDACTED



Archdiocese Of Los Angeles  
Rev. Timothy J. Dyer  
1531 West 9th Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90015-1194

90015-1194 59

16779

12-13-93

REDACTED

well known  
in Santa Barbara 36 years old  
now

REDACTED

nothing  
happier  
than to  
see  
this  
end "

Lawyer's Office

will open a can of  
worms in Santa  
Barbaraentails 3 priests  
got him drunk  
when he was a little  
boy.  
hugely  
2 other victims

16772



gave him a statue  
 "you're a horny  
 little devil"

wants to work out  
 without a law  
 suit

wants a financial  
 settlement

molested 2x '72  
 Mariposa Diego H.S.

Palm Springs - before  
 high school

tried to molest his brother  
 molested 2 of his brother's  
 friends

16773



COPY

---

Archdiocese of Los AngelesOffice of  
Vicar for Clergy  
(213) 251-32841531  
West Ninth  
StreetLos Angeles  
California  
90015-1194

---

December 15, 1993

REDACTED

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed is check in the amount of [REDACTED]

This is in payment of your invoices #1428 and [REDACTED] for  
airfare REDACTED to Los Angeles and back for REDACTED  
on December 3, 1993.

With thanks for your patience, I remain

Sincerely yours,

REDACTED  
REDACTED

16770

**VENDOR** **REDACTED**  
**THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP OF LOS ANGELES**  
(A CORPORATION SOLE)

1531 West Ninth Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90015-1194

**A 066009**

DATE	INVOICE NO.	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
12/08/93	0001428	AIR FARE, REDACTED	REDACTED
12/08/93	0001429	AIR FARE,	REDACTED
TOTAL -			REDACTED.00



**The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Los Angeles**  
(A Corporation Sole)  
Los Angeles, California 90015-1194

**A 066009**

OLYMPIC UNION BRANCH  
**BANK OF AMERICA**  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

CHECK NO.	66009
DATE	12/10/93
AMOUNT	REDACTED.00

**PAY: \*\*\*\*\* DOLLARS AND NO CENTS**

TO THE  
ORDER  
OF

REDACTED

VOID AFTER 90 DAYS  
THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP  
OF LOS ANGELES  
REDACTED  
REDACTED

⑈066009⑈ ⑆122000661⑆ 03090⑈03030⑈



## MEMORANDUM

CONFIDENTIAL

December 15, 1993

TO: CARDINAL MAHONY  
 FROM: MONSIGNOR DYER  
 RE: ALLEGATION AGAINST REV. JOHN DAWSON (NEW)

On December 3, REDACTED and I met with a REDACTED REDACTED who alleges that Father John Dawson molested him at a home in Palm Springs when he REDACTED was 14 years old.

REDACTED also said that he suspects his brother was molested (and later told me over the phone that his brother knows of three others with whom John Dawson was involved).

REDACTED asked for [REDACTED] in damages and threatened to file a suit and go to the media if his demand was not met.

REDACTED

Judging from REDACTED story, I would say that he was very likely molested by Father Dawson; judging from his emotional state here in the office, he is unpredictable. On the one hand, he made some rather wild claims and threats. At one point he said that he will ask for [REDACTED] if he files a suit. On the other hand, he may in fact become a terrible source of trouble and scandal for the Church as he claims that his family is well-known in the Santa Barbara area, and that following the Franciscan scandal his story would do a great deal of damage.

*yes*  
I recommend we follow our policy and not give in to threats, but  
 I do think you should be forewarned about the sensitivity surrounding this case. I am presently in contact with Father Dawson and his therapists at the Villa in Albuquerque and will keep you informed about the matter.

*Please proceed as outlined - you have a letter  
 on your desk for REDACTED to me - + RMH*

12-15-93

16769



**SERVANTS  
of the  
PARACLETE**

A Spiritual and Psychological Renewal Center for Priests and Brothers

The Albuquerque Villa • 2348 Pajarito Road, S.W. • Albuquerque, New Mexico 87105 • (505) 873-0647

**January 14, 1994**

**Rev. Monsignor Timothy Dyer  
1531 W. 9th St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90015**

**Dear Monsignor:**

Enclosed are the summaries of the different therapeutic sessions that John has participated in over the past twelve weeks. I believe that they are rather straightforward. If you have any questions about any of the reports, please do not hesitate to contact me.

REDACTED

REDACTED

**Sincerely,**

REDACTED

17075

**PSYCHIATRIC SUMMARY**

REDACTED

**November 30, 1993**

REDACTED

**GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY**

REDACTED

**November 1, 1993**

REDACTED

REDACTED

17084

**GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY**

REDACTED

**November 8, 1993**

REDACTED

**GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY**

REDACTED

**November 15, 1993**

REDACTED

17085

**GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY**

REDACTED

**November 29, 1993**

REDACTED

**GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY**

REDACTED

**December 13, 1993**

REDACTED



REDACTED

REDACTED

**RELAPSE PREVENTION GROUP**

REDACTED

**November 5, 1993**

REDACTED

REDACTED

**RELAPSE PREVENTION GROUP**

REDACTED

**November 12, 1993**

REDACTED

REDACTED

**RELAPSE PREVENTION GROUP**

REDACTED

**December 10, 1993**

REDACTED

**RELAPSE PREVENTION GROUP**

REDACTED

**December 17, 1993**

REDACTED

REDACTED

17089

This Information has been disclosed to you from records whose confidentiality is protected by Federal Law. Federal Regulation (42 CFR, Part 2) prohibits you from making any further disclosure of it without the specific written consent of the person to whom it pertains, or as otherwise permitted by such regulations. A general authorization for the release of medical or other information is NOT sufficient for this purpose.

REDACTED

**January 14, 1994**

**Rev. Monsignor Timothy Dyer  
1531 W. 9th St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90015**

**Dear Monsignor:**

**Enclosed are the summaries of the different therapeutic sessions that John has participated in over the past twelve weeks. I believe that they are rather straightforward. If you have any questions about any of the reports, please do not hesitate to contact me.**

REDACTED

REDACTED  
REDACTED

REDACTED

✓  
/

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

**Sincerely,**  
REDACTED

17083

Out of pocket counseling expenses paid \$[REDACTED].00.  
Future counseling two sessions per week at [REDACTED].00 per  
session, [REDACTED].00.  
Travel expenses for future travel to [REDACTED] for counseling  
[REDACTED].00.  
Child care for future counseling [REDACTED].00.

REDACTED

17096

REDACTED

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter is for your files and so  
I receive counseling because of John Dawson!  
molest

6 months of counseling twice a week	\$	<del>████████</del>
cash paid out by me	\$	<del>████████</del>
child care 5 HRS A DAY twice a week	\$	<del>████████</del>
TRAVEL, GAS EXPENSES TO REDACTED	\$	<del>████████</del>
		BACK
		MISC.
		\$ 10
		<del>████████</del> 00

these EXPENSES ARE TOTAL

REDACTED

17095

REDACTED

January 24, 1994

REDACTED

Re: Your client, REDACTED

Dear REDACTED

As you may recall from our telephone conversations, I represent the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

I am enclosing a copy of an undated letter from your client which he sent to the Chancery Office of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles addressed, "To Whom It May Concern."

According to my notes when you and I spoke back on December 23, 1993, I advised you that, in my opinion, if Mr. REDACTED filed a lawsuit, the Archdiocese has a good and valid statute of limitations defense. Although I do not think I mentioned it at the time, the Archdiocese also has a good and valid defense under the holding of the Rita M. case.

Perhaps you can explain what Mr. REDACTED wants. Please explain to him that I represent the Archdiocese and that he should not contact them, but rather deal with me through you.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Very truly yours,  
REDACTED

REDACTED

Enclosure

1/27/94:

REDACTED

*Called this A.M.  
Mrs. Dyer tied up + I spoke to  
him. Told him he should  
be in contact with his lawyer.  
That his lawyer + Archdiocese  
are working on the matter  
and we can take no action from this  
office. He accepted that but was disappointed.*

REDACTED

17093

*G. John  
Dawson*

REDACTED

*2-4-74 from*

3) REDACTED

calling to let you know that he is

not satisfied with the response from the Archdiocese to his situation. Archdiocese is supposed to pay for past and future counseling. In order to receive counseling he had to move from his REDACTED

REDACTED Dyer told him he would have a check in the mail last Friday, 1/28. REDACTED told him the check would be coming from the attorney's. So far nothing has been received and he would like to know what is happening as he has two children to feed. REDACTED

is his source of communication. He will call back again this afternoon. Did not wish to leave a number.

17090



MEMORANDUMFebruary 5, 1994

TO: Cardinal Mahony  
FROM: Father Timothy Dyer  
RE: John Dawson

Attached is the latest report re John Dawson from Servants of the Paraclete.

REDACTED will be going to see John within the month. Among other things, he will have to give him an update on the demands being made by another victim, Mr. REDACTED (REDACTED attorney is presently meeting with REDACTED )

*We must take the safe approach of  
St. Luke's -*

*+ RMM*

*2-9-94*

17082



Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of  
Vicar for Clergy  
(213) 251-32841531  
West Ninth  
StreetLos Angeles  
California  
90015-1194

## TELECOMMUNICATION COVER LETTER

DATE: Feb. 14, 1994TIME: 10:30 A.M.FOLLOWING IS A 7 PAGE DOCUMENT

TO: REDACTED

ADDRESS:

FAX NO:

FROM: OFFICE OF THE VICAR FOR CLERGY  
ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES  
FAX NO: REDACTEDCONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

This transmission is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged and confidential. If the reader of the message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, distribution, or copying this information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify us immediately by telephone, and return the original documents to us at the above address via the United States Postal Service.

If all pages are not received or not readable, please call (213) 251-3284.

17073

Pastoral Regions: Our Lady of the Angels San Fernando San Gabriel San Pedro Santa Barbara

## MESSAGE CONFIRMATION

DATE: 02/14/94 TIME: 10:36

ID: APCHDIOCESE LA F

DATE	TIME	TO-TIME	LISTEN STATION ID	MODE	PAGES	RESULT
	10:30	05:42"	REDACTED	GS-S	008	OK

REDACTED

*Called 02/14/94.**Said they heard they had submitted their copy of memo & asked us to FAX this to them.*

REDACTED

17074



*L. Dawson*

April 12, 1994

Rev. Msgr. Timothy Dyer  
Office of Vicar for Clergy  
1531 West 9th Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90015-1194

Dear Rev. Msgr. Dyer:

Greetings from St. Michael's. I would like to wish you a belated Happy Easter and a timely joyful Pentecost.

As of March 15th, I have been back at St. Michael's full time. This ends my weekly commute from New Mexico which began last September, and as you probably can imagine, I am not sorry to have that particular part of my life come to a close.

I have made some changes at St. Michael's, and I know that there have been some rumors about these changes. The purpose of this letter is to give you my perspective on exactly what is happening within our program.

1. There has always been an unwritten rule that the program is five months in duration. This dates back to 1977 when we ran the first programs in New Mexico like a two-semester course. As we are all now aware, sometimes very painfully so, at that time we were not facing some of the presenting problems we see today. Consequently, although most people do stay an average of five months, I have tried to break this "mind-set" because I believe that if a person needs more time in treatment and has a five-month mind-set, he psychologically may leave the program long before his actual departure date. Recently, we had a couple of residents who needed to stay for seven months. It was very difficult to convince them that this was therapeutic and not punishment because of their preconceived ideas. Additionally, some of you have experienced the situation wherein a person is ready to leave treatment in three or four months, and although this does not often happen, we do see it on occasion. For these reasons, I have tried to discourage the men from thinking in terms of a five-month stay.
2. I have added an in depth progress conference to the program and strongly urge that a representative from the Diocese or Community be present for this meeting. We still have the discharge conference but attendance for individuals from Dioceses and Communities is optional. I again see this as a common sense therapeutic issue. Traditionally, that concept again, a person leaves St. Michael's the day after the discharge conference. As a matter of fact, concerns often have arisen in those conferences which have made me uncomfortable having a person leave the next day. It could be some new information about the person from the Diocese or Community, a new assignment or no assignment. These issues need to be processed in

17071

Rev. Msgr. Timothy Dyer  
 April 12, 1994  
 Page 2

therapy, and it simply makes more sense to meet with a representative of the Diocese or Community sometime during treatment to discuss progress, issues, and possible assignment or alternatives.

3. St. Michael's will be opening an outpatient program for Priests and Brothers this Fall. Whether a person will be in the residential or outpatient program will be determined with our evaluation team, the person who will be in the program, and the community or diocesan representative. The outpatient program will be comparable to day treatment utilizing individual and group work. There also will be a supervised cardiovascular component. This obviously will be less costly and provide the resident with the option to live away from St. Michael's and possibly continue in ministry. We will be sending the details of this program during the summer.
4. We have established a speakers bureau for the Priests and Brothers of this geographic area. We will sponsor a speaker for an evening presentation approximately four or five times each year. Our first presenter will be Father REDACTED - author, Episcopal priest, and international lecturer. His work as both priest and addictions counselor focuses on the sources and symptoms of wounded spirituality.
5. The VIVA Program has been moved from Albuquerque to St. Louis. This was initially a residential program for priests and Brothers who were HIV +. It was designed as an eight-week residential module of information, support and empowerment. We have altered the program to accept both residents and nonresidents. This program is designed for those interested in ministry to persons who are HIV +, and to those who are HIV +. There are only eight openings for this process and the beginning and ending dates are fixed. Please contact us for the dates.

I trust this letter brings some clarity to what is happening here at St. Michael's. We still operate our chemical dependency program as well as our other therapeutic and holistic programs.

Please know that you are always welcome to call me with questions or concerns. We also extend a standing invitation to you to visit our facility, and thank you for the support that you have offered St. Michael's and the Servants of the Paraclete.

Please remember ~~us~~ those with whom we share our ministry in prayer.

Fraternally,



(Very Rev) Michael E. Foley, s.P. L.C.S.W., D.Min  
 Clinical Director

17072



**Archdiocese of Los Angeles**

Office of  
Vicar for Clergy  
(213) 251-3284

1531  
West Ninth  
Street

Los Angeles  
California  
90015-1194

June 8, 1994

Rev. John H. Dawson  
REDACTED

Dear John:

I was happy to meet with you REDACTED

I want to encourage you with your present program, and remind you that you can call on me should the need arise.

As I mentioned during our visit, I will be away during the month of July, and on retreat the first week of August. Other than that, you can reach me at my office REDACTED, or at home REDACTED

May God bless you. You are in my prayers.

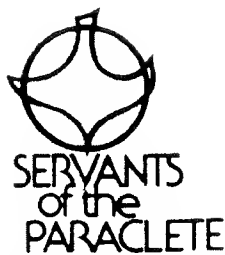
In Christ,

(Rev. Msgr.) Timothy J. Dyer  
Vicar for Clergy

REDACTED

17067

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

A Spiritual and Psychological Renewal Center for Priests and Brothers

The Albuquerque Villa • 2348 Pajarito Road, S.W. • Albuquerque, New Mexico 87105 • (505) 873-0647

June 21, 1994

**Rev. Msgr. Timothy Dyer**  
**1531 W. 9th Street**  
**Los Angeles, CA 90015**

**Dear Monsignor Dyer:**

The following is a report of the Planning Meeting held on May 25, 1994, at the Albuquerque Villa on behalf of Father John Dawson.

**Attending the meeting were:**

**MSGR. TIMOTHY DYER, Vicar of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles**  
**REV. JOHN DAWSON, Resident**  
 REDACTED

A meeting was arranged to discuss the status of Fr. Dawson, a resident of the Albuquerque Villa. It was decided that given some of his recent decisions and behaviors, it would be helpful for the staff to meet with Fr. Dawson and a representative from his Archdiocese to discuss the assessment of Fr. Dawson's progress to date, possibilities for the future, and prognosis.

Prior to Fr. Dawson joining the meeting, a discussion was held between the Villa staff and Msgr. Dyer. We reviewed with him the history of Fr. Dawson's course at REDACTED here at the Villa, and then detailed the activities of the last couple of months. Of greatest concern have been decisions and actions that Fr. Dawson has taken out of his desire to be discharged from the Villa Program and "choose freedom instead of security." The initial discussion of this plan was--as it had been at St. Luke's--for him to gradually ease into that transition. Toward that goal, he went to Arizona to explore job possibilities, look at housing, meet with two friends who live there, and locate where he could attend SA meetings.

17057

*Rev. John Dawson, Planning Conference Report, Page 2*

Unfortunately, Fr. Dawson took this plan much further, and although he was counseled against doing anything of a definitive or irreversible nature, he purchased a residence. Of much greater concern, however, was that Fr. Dawson applied for a job at the Arizona Boys' School, which was learned of through a telephone call from them confirming his interview appointment. Had they not called the Villa, it is doubtful that Fr. Dawson would have informed us of that job application and interview. When confronted with this, as he was by the staff three weeks ago, he said that it had never been his intention to accept a job there, but rather he just wanted another experience at a job interview. In addition to these two incidents of highly questionable judgment (buying a residence and the job interview), within the last week Fr. Dawson anonymously put a condom in another resident's mailbox.

The constellation of these behaviors, especially in the context of the length and intensity of the treatment in which Fr. Dawson has been involved over the last two years, resulted in the staff's reassessing its support of his gradual transition out of residential treatment and into independent living.

After this review and discussion, Fr. Dawson was invited into the meeting. At that time he was asked to talk about how he sees himself and the situation. He explained that he was "choosing freedom versus security," and that it had been his plan to continue his program in Arizona by going to SA meetings, and having a therapist and support groups. He said that he will stay on medication as long as the Archdiocese pays for it. He had said in an individual session that it was his intention to drop the medications once he left the program.

Msgr. Dyer then reviewed with Fr. Dawson the position of the Archdiocese and his understanding of the assessment that Fr. Dawson is still very much at-risk for sexual acting out. He explained to Fr. Dawson that he seriously questions Fr. Dawson's judgment, the choice for "freedom", and described his belief that it is a bad decision on Fr. Dawson's part. By way of example, Msgr. Dyer reminded him that although he may be choosing freedom from a residential treatment program, if he leaves the program and does act out, it would mean incarceration which would ~~be~~ no freedom at all.

Msgr. Dyer also explained the position of the Archdiocese regarding support for Fr. Dawson. Essentially, he stated that if Fr. Dawson chooses to leave treatment, the Archdiocese would not support him (he acknowledged that canonically a priest is protected if he is indigent, but that is not Fr. Dawson's situation). Msgr. Dyer went on to state that the Archdiocese will support Fr. Dawson if he follows recommendations and treatment, and reminded him that they have been committed to Fr. Dawson's treatment and will continue to do so.

17058



*Rev. John Dawson, Planning Conference Report, Page 3*

Finally, in this initial explanation to Fr. Dawson, Msgr. Dyer explained the legal situation. There are people in California who are counting on the Archdiocese's explanation to them that Fr. Dawson is in treatment and is not on his own. These people might have to be informed if Fr. Dawson chooses to leave treatment, and there could be legal repercussions should that occur.

REDACTED

Dr. REDACTED also said that there is nothing Fr. Dawson would be able to do over the next few to several months which would change his opinion about Fr. Dawson's being at high risk for acting out. That is, because Dr. REDACTED sees choices and behaviors as speaking more clearly and honestly than words, he did not feel that in any short-range time frame (a few to several months) there would be anything which would result in his reassessing that level of risk. It is Dr. REDACTED recommendation that Fr. Dawson not live independently. He said that in not living independently the goal would be simply for Fr. Dawson not to get into any trouble or act out. He gave the assessment that if he lived alone and continued medications, there would be a 50 percent chance of his acting out; if he lived alone without medications, that chance would increase to between 75 and 90 percent risk. As he said, "It is my sense that you will do something (that is, acting out of a sexual nature)."

Dr. REDACTED further explained that he had been willing to go along with what seemed to be a reasonable choice on Fr. Dawson's part to opt for freedom. He stated that now, however, he has completely changed his mind on that question, given Fr. Dawson's recent behaviors.

Fr. Dawson responded that he disagreed with that, but would continue to listen to the professionals. He said that he will continue to live here at the

17059

*Rev. John Dawson, Planning Conference Report, Page 4*

Albuquerque Villa "for a while" and then review it. In response to a question from Msgr. Dyer, Fr. Dawson said that he sees the situation as "Well, we make mistakes and then we change."

Dr. REDACTED read to Fr. Dawson from the discharge notes of St. Luke's, written approximately a year and a half ago, which parallel the behaviors that he has been engaged in at this time as well. That same summary could be written about his actions and reactions in the last few weeks, and so the question is whether or not, in fact, Fr. Dawson has been able to learn from his mistakes.

The meeting then turned to an interactive discussion between Fr. Dawson and the others in attendance at the meeting. Dr. REDACTED who works with Fr. Dawson in groups, noted that one of his concerns is that Fr. Dawson does not seem as frightened of his own behaviors and actions as we are--that is, he does not feel the same way that others do, who can be more objective in their perceptions of his choices. He made it clear to Fr. Dawson that we, the Villa staff and those from his Archdiocese, seem to be more scared of someone getting hurt and Fr. Dawson going to jail than he himself is. Dr. REDACTED echoed Dr. Feierman's statements that there would probably not be any way that in three months there would be significant changes which would result in an assessment that he is no longer at-risk. However, Dr. REDACTED added that changes in Fr. Dawson have been seen over the last several months. Until recent weeks, Fr. Dawson tended to be more interactive in the group, seemed to be not just saying words, slogans and phrases which he had learned through his therapy, but speaking more from his own experiences and his heart. Dr. REDACTED noted that sometimes therapy is more difficult because Fr. Dawson can make the same statements as someone who is working and benefitting--internalizing his program--but unfortunately for Fr. Dawson, he knows the language but does not seem to have internalized the process.

REDACTED Fr. Dawson's spiritual director, talked in detail about the process of internalization, both in spiritual direction and in therapy. REDACTED stated that he ~~does~~ not see the internalization process within Fr. Dawson, either in his statements or in his reactions. His questions centered around Fr. Dawson's desire to be given "a date" and other "externals" upon which he seems to be depending most strongly. He summarized that, as a result, he has many misgivings about Fr. Dawson's condition at this point in time.

REDACTED stressed that it is Fr. Dawson's life and it is he, and only he, who makes his decisions and choices, and that it is he who is responsible. He

17060

discussed the danger signs which several people have brought up to Fr. Dawson, but once again stressed that unless and until Fr. Dawson himself can realize the danger signs, he will be at-risk for acting out in the future.

Msgr. Dyer recapitulated that emphasis, that Fr. Dawson is the one in charge of his life, who makes his decisions and accepts the consequences. He reiterated that no one is in control of Fr. Dawson's life at this time, except himself, and reviewed the consequences depending on those decisions.

Fr. Dawson became very upset during the meeting, was obviously discouraged, and cried. He repeated a number of times that he does not want to be institutionalized the rest of his life. He feels he has made a good deal of progress, and, "I don't see myself as dangerous."

Dr. REDACTED explained to Fr. Dawson, at that point, that the behaviors he sees as remote are perceived by others as much more proximate to overt sexual acting out, "relapse," or "close call." The application to the Arizona Boys' School was a good example of that.

By the end of the meeting, Fr. Dawson felt more hopeful. The discussions continued regarding the staff's perceptions of him and precautions for him. He agreed that he would "try some more" and stated that although he felt quite bad at the time, he heard that there continues to be hope for him. He wished that there had been more progress and can only try his best to work toward this.

At the close of the meeting, the agreement was that Fr. Dawson will continue in the program and the situation will be reassessed in approximately three months. Msgr. Dyer stated that he will be happy to return for another review meeting at that time. He explained that he will be out of the country in REDACTED but will be available upon his return. He will be notified as soon as another planning meeting date is finalized, toward the end of the summer.

The participation and quick response of the Archdiocese on Fr. Dawson's behalf are appreciated. We were also pleased to see Fr. Dawson's own willingness to reconsider his situation and his ongoing therapeutic needs. Everyone concerned seems to be working toward the same goals in a cooperative manner.

*PLEASE NOTE: The contents of this report are confidential, and protected by law. They may not be discussed with anyone except those for whom a written release has been signed by the client. If you would like to return this copy of the report to us following your review of it, you are welcome to do so. It will be maintained in the client's confidential file with the Servants of the Paraclete.*

Prepared by: REDACTED

cc: Father John Dawson

17061



SERVANTS  
of the  
PARACLETE

17062

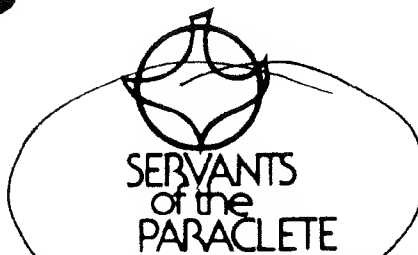
## MEMORANDUM

DATE: JULY 8, 1994  
TO: CARDINAL MAHONY  
FROM: MONSIGNOR DYER  
RE: REV. JOHN DAWSON

Attached is a report on Fr. John Dawson based on my meeting with him and the therapeutic staff at the Villa in Albuquerque.

REDACTED

17056



A Spiritual and Psychological Renewal Center for Priests and Brothers

The Albuquerque Villa • 2348 Pajarito Road, S.W. • Albuquerque, New Mexico 87105 • (505) 873-0647

July 11, 1994

Rev. Msgr. Timothy Dyer  
Vicar for Clergy  
Chancery Office: 1531 W. 9th Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90015-1194

Re: Father John Dawson

Dear Monsignor Dyer:

I hope that your trip to <sup>REDACTED</sup> was enjoyable and renewing for you. I know when I was there a number of years ago, it was a wonderful experience.

I am writing this letter as a follow-up to our last contact regarding Fr. John Dawson. As we had discussed at that time, we wanted to plan another meeting here at the Villa to review how things have been going for John over the past three months. A sneak preview is that John seems to have--if not turned a corner, at least gone around a couple of bends--and is not only no longer fighting the program impatiently, but participating thoroughly. Nonetheless, we still want to have the meeting we had discussed, for the benefit of all concerned.

We would be happy to arrange that around your time schedule, so if you could give me a call to let me know what some options are, that can be worked out here. As you know, John's <sup>REDACTED</sup> has been diagnosed with <sup>REDACTED</sup> and I believe it is terminal. <sup>REDACTED</sup> John had <sup>REDACTED</sup> in a request from <sup>REDACTED</sup> to give permission for him to go back to spend a week <sup>REDACTED</sup> which was granted. I am not sure exactly when he will be doing that <sup>REDACTED</sup> and that he would also work that around your schedule.

I also <sup>REDACTED</sup> mention that I, and perhaps another member from the staff at the Villa, are planning <sup>REDACTED</sup> to many of dioceses and provinces in California and other western states. If we have not already done so, perhaps when you come out, we can talk about scheduling that as well. Our purpose is to have some in-person meetings with bishops, or vicars for clergy, personnel directors, or those who are liaisons for men who are in need of assessment and/or treatment. We would definitely want to include Los Angeles among those visits, and would look forward to meeting with you in your hometown.

17054

I look forward to hearing from you, and welcome home.

Very sincerely.  
REDACTED

17055



A Spiritual and Psychological Renewal Center for Priests and Brothers

The Albuquerque Villa • 2348 Pajarito Road, S.W. • Albuquerque, New Mexico 87105 • (505) 873-0647

July 27, 1994

Rev. Monsignor Timothy Dyer  
1531 W. 9th St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Re: Rev. John Dawson

Dear Monsignor Dyer:

This is the progress report for Rev. John Dawson covering his stay at the Albuquerque Villa from April 1 to July 1. REDACTED  
REDACTED



*Rev. John Dawson, Progress Report, Pg. 4*

REDACTED

In summary, John does appear to have shifted his focus and his attitude about remaining in therapy, and continuing here at the Villa, for an undefined period of time. He is participating well in his therapies, and progress is being made.

If there are any questions regarding the contents of this report, please feel free to contact us at any time.

REDACTED

cc: Rev. John Dawson

**PLEASE NOTE:** The contents of this letter and the attached report are confidential, and protected by law. They may not be discussed with anyone except those for whom a written release has been signed by the client. If you would like to return this copy of the report to us following your review of it, you are welcome to do so. It will be maintained in the client's confidential file with the REDACTED REDACTED

17050

CONFIDENTIAL



SERVANTS  
of the  
PARACLETE

CONFIDENTIAL

17051



DATE INITIATED: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: Fr. John Dawson

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

PERSON MAKING ALLEGATION: REDACTED

\_\_\_\_ Work

\_\_\_\_ Home

REPORT/ALLEGATION: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ARCHDIOCESAN ATTORNEY/INSURANCE NOTIFIED: [date] \_\_\_\_\_

THERAPISTS/DOCTORS: REDACTED  
[priest] \_\_\_\_\_THERAPISTS/DOCTORS: \_\_\_\_\_  
[for others] \_\_\_\_\_( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) \_\_\_\_\_ADDITIONAL CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_  
PERSONS: \_\_\_\_\_( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) \_\_\_\_\_ADVOCATES/ATTORNEY: REDACTED \_\_\_\_\_( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) \_\_\_\_\_

## CASE CHRONOLOGY:

## DATE

12-12-92. Allegation (by phone) from REDACTED - molestation said to have occurred when he was 12 yrs old. - in 1976.

12-14-92 Allegation presented to Fr. Dawson. Evaluation + Administrative leave called for by Card. - Fr. Dawson to MTRIC Delors 2

12-17 Evaluation by REDACTED begun / Jan 5 - report rec'd (written form)

1-8-93 Admission to S.L.I.

7-23-93 Final report - S.L.I.

9-23 S.L.I. Halfway House Report.

16912

10-14-93

Rec to Card. that <sup>REDACTED</sup>

cont. treatment

11-94-

Begins treatm. at Albuquerque villa

11-29-93

New Allegations of molestation by REDACTED

2-94

in written form Dec 8 (letter)

7-94

Visited at Alb. villa by REDACTED

9-94

" " " " " "

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

## AFTERCARE CHRONOLOGY:

## DATE

16913

CONFIDENTIAL

NOTES ON SEPTEMBER 7, 1994 MEETING AT VILLA ALBUQUERQUE: Fr. John Dawson,  
Msgr. Tim Dyer, REDACTED  
REDACTED

Dr. REDACTED reviewed much of the progress John has been making since April. The Report of July 27 from the Villa also described this breakthrough from dealing almost exclusively with external factors to discovering his own inner life as a foundation for his life decisions.

What is new since July Report:

A) John's expressing "identification with victims." "I could actually do this again, but I really don't want to hurt anybody." Both Dr. REDACTED and Dr. REDACTED remarked on the authenticity of this statement.

B) After discussing stopping REDACTED with Dr. REDACTED he did stop taking it, with Dr. REDACTED approval. He has shown a willingness to track the effects of the change with Dr. REDACTED and the rest of the staff. His previous plan was to keep taking REDACTED to please the staff and immediately stop when he got out of the Villa.

We spent about an hour more discussing the significance of this breakthrough:

1) This new-found capacity to operate from a deeper and more authentic level promises much more significant progress, but is only the beginning.

2) The staff says that Fr. Dawson's progress makes it all the more appropriate for him to continue in the full therapeutic program at the Villa.

3) The staff thinks it is not the time to discuss a release date. They regard him as welcome to stay as long as appropriate.

17045

SERVANTS  
of the  
PARACLETE



# The Albuquerque Villa

A Residential Therapeutic Treatment & Resource Center

September 8, 1994

Rev. Monsignor Timothy Dyer  
1531 West 9th St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Re: Rev. John Dawson

Dear Monsignor Dyer:

The following is a report of the planning meeting held on September 7, 1994, at the Albuquerque Villa on behalf of Father John Dawson, a resident of the Albuquerque Villa. Also enclosed is a copy of his progress report.

In attendance:

Rev. John Dawson, Villa Resident

Rev. Monsignor Timothy Dyer, Archdiocese of Los Angeles

REDACTED

As was recommended at the May Planning Meeting, Msgr. Dyer and Rev. Dawson returned to review Rev. Dawson's situation. Rev. Dawson began by saying he thought things were going well for him. He feels more relaxed and more accepting of the necessity of remaining a longer time at the Villa.

Dr. REDACTED his individual therapist, observed that she was no less than amazed at the changes which had taken place within Rev. Dawson in the past several months. It was difficult for Rev. Dawson to work through some of the issues raised when the crisis of the job search in Phoenix arose.

2348 Pajarito Road, S.W., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87105  
Telephone: (505) 873-0647 FAX: (505) 877-9571

17031

*Rev. John Dawson, Planning Conference Report, Page 2*

When the Archdiocese indicated if Rev. Dawson wanted to go out and start a life of his own, it was his own decision and responsibility. Rev. Dawson mulled it over for a while and decided to remain at the Villa to work on his issues for himself and his own motivation. In the beginning it was not clear just what this might mean. Rev. Dawson had been accustomed to reacting to what others had decided beforehand. It was a new experience for Rev. Dawson to take the initiative and decide for himself what was in his own best interests. Rev. Dawson then began to relate his dreams to Dr. REDACTED which was significant in that his dreamwork Rev. Dawson began to get in touch with an area of his life that was only himself—not as a "reaction" to others. With this development Rev. Dawson began to realize that he has an inner life.

Rev. Dawson realized that what he felt made a difference. He discovered a part of his therapy in which he had personal input. He began to grow in self-knowledge and self-acceptance. His self-worth began to improve.

Rev. Dawson made a decision to attend OA meetings, which meant that he was making a choice about a direction he wanted in his life. He was motivated to take care of himself.

REDACTED The issue of Rev. Dawson's "shock" comments was brought up. Dr. REDACTED gave an explanation of how she saw these functioning in Rev. Dawson's life. She speculated that it was much more complex than at first appeared. It was Rev. Dawson's way of being a person and present to others. It was as if he had to shock people to make them know he was there. Otherwise it seemed as if he would "disappear" without that kind of attention, and he described feeling "like furniture."

Dr. REDACTED noted another area in which Rev. Dawson demonstrated significant change. Previously Rev. Dawson denied that he could relapse into his sexual acting out. Now Rev. Dawson had begun to state that he realized it could happen again. He became aware with this realization that he truly did not want it to happen in the future because he didn't want to cause harm to anyone again, he didn't want to hurt himself, and because it was illegal—in that order of priority.

At this point Msgr. Dyer asked Rev. Dawson if he could explain what he had experienced. Rev. Dawson seemed at a loss to describe or explain just what had

*Rev. John Dawson, Planning Conference Report, Page 3*

happened. He said the dreamwork had helped him understand that there was something going on inside. This understanding helped him be more honest. He had heard thing both here and at St. Luke's, but didn't seem to understand. Now he understands and experiences them.

Msgr. Dyer observed that it appeared that Rev. Dawson had made some deep and significant decisions. Rev. Dawson agreed that he did make a decision to stay and at the same time let go of focusing on long-term goals. He observed that he used to focus on getting out of the Villa and as a result wasn't listening, but blocking out information.

Rev. Dawson stated that now his spiritual life and practice are more integrated, "everything is coming together." He described feeling "fractured" in the past and he had a great need to control in order to keep things together.

Dr. REDACTED group therapist, observed that earlier Rev. Dawson was more active in the group. Lately it has seemed that more of his work is occurring privately. Dr. REDACTED also mentioned that it is possible that Rev. Dawson does not yet have the words to describe his experience, since it is so new and unfamiliar to him.

Dr. REDACTED said that Rev. Dawson has recognized that he is a person, but not fully able to articulate what this means or what it feels like. Rev. Dawson is learning how to speak as a person from within himself.

Previously the staff discussed if Rev. Dawson could learn to obey the rules he would be safe. With the Phoenix episode we realized that had not yet happened and maybe there wasn't much likelihood that it would happen. Dr. REDACTED reminded us that previously Msgr. Dyer had said Rev. Dawson needed substantial changes. He stated that he felt this is now happening. Previously Rev. Dawson had all the words; now he seems to have the substance, but the words evade him at the present.

Dr. REDACTED spoke of Rev. Dawson's authority issues as an illustration of the shifts that seem to have taken place. In the past when another resident decided to leave against staff recommendation, Rev. Dawson saw this as a declaration of freedom and autonomy from staff influence and cheered the



*Rev. John Dawson, Planning Conference Report, Page 4*

decision. When later the same resident announced that he thought things over and had decided to stay, Rev. Dawson saw this as caving in to pressure from authority. This episode highlighted Rev. Dawson's issues around authority. Being independent meant one had to be disobedient because to obey was to abdicate personal freedom and responsibility. This episode seemed to arouse Rev. Dawson's curiosity and he started to question how this issue worked. He knows that he has not fully understood the issues and needs to do more work. He understands more now but has a way to go.

Rev. Dawson has made an honest and reflective decision to stop using REDACTED. He took the initiative in making a change in his life and followed through with it, after discussing it, praying, and meeting with Dr. REDACTED. REDACTED

REDACTED

Msgr. Dyer commented that it is clear that Rev. Dawson has made significant decisions that demonstrate more maturity. Previously he was less mature in his relationship with authority figures.

*Rev. John Dawson, Planning Conference Report, Page 5*

REDACTED

It was agreed that another meeting will be scheduled in approximately three months (mid-December).  
REDACTED

cc: Reverend John Dawson

PLEASE NOTE: The contents of this report are confidential, and protected by law. They may not be discussed with anyone except those for whom a written release has been signed by the client. If you would like to return this copy of the report to us following your review of it, you are welcome to do so. It will be maintained in the client's confidential file with the Servants of the Paraclete.

17035



SERVANTS  
of the  
PARACLETE

17036



SERVANTS  
of the  
PARACLETE



# The Albuquerque Villa

A Residential Therapeutic Treatment & Resource Center

September 14, 1994

Rev. Monsignor Timothy Dyer  
Archdiocese of Los Angeles  
1531 West 9th St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Re: Rev. John Dawson

Dear Monsignor Dyer:

This is the progress report for Father John Dawson covering the period from July 1 through September 9, 1994, of his work and progress at the Albuquerque Villa. REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

2348 Pajarito Road, S.W., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87105  
Telephone: (505) 873-0647 FAX: (505) 877-9571

*Rev. John Dawson, Progress Report, Pg. 5*

REDACTED

Sincerely,

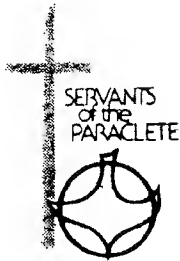
REDACTED

Clinical Director, The Albuquerque Villa

cc: Reverend John Dawson

PLEASE NOTE: The contents of this report are confidential, and protected by law. They may not be discussed with anyone except those for whom a written release has been signed by the client. If you would like to return this copy of the report to us following your review of it, you are welcome to do so. It will be maintained in the client's confidential file with the Servants of the Paraclete.

17041



# The Albuquerque Villa

A Residential Therapeutic Treatment & Resource Center

September 15, 1994

Rev. Monsignor Timothy Dyer  
Archdiocese of Los Angeles  
1531 West 9th St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Dear Monsignor Tim:

I want to extend to you my personal thanks for taking time to attend the review and evaluation meeting on behalf of myself and the Villa program. I appreciated your remarks and the feedback that you gave. You, as well as many others, were generous with your positive input. Please know, though, that I am just as eager to hear suggestions and criticisms, not only at a formal meeting like this, but at any time.

Also, please extend my gratitude to REDACTED for his time and attention, not only during this meeting, but all that he has done for Rev. John Dawson.

REDACTED

You have already received, or will shortly be receiving, the written reports of the meeting regarding John and also his progress report. We are looking at mid-December for another planning meeting, if that will work out for you and/or REDACTED. Because of the Christmas season, if you already know that that will not be workable, just let us know.

I hope all continues to go well for you in your work and ministry.

Sincerely,  
REDACTED

Clinical Director

17044

2348 Pajarito Road, S.W., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87105  
Telephone: (505) 873-0647 FAX: (505) 877-9571

COPY *Handwritten signature*

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of  
Vicar for Clergy  
(713) 251 32811531  
West Ninth  
StreetLos Angeles  
California  
90015 1194

September 22, 1994

Rev. John Dawson  
REDACTED

Dear Father Dawson:

Enclosed is a letter received in our office some time ago.

Monsignor Dyer indicated I should send it to you to handle according to your discretion.

As you know, the Archdiocese does not give out addresses. However, we are now writing REDACTED saying simply that the letter was received and has been sent to you and that it will be up to you to respond.

Please accept my personal apology for the delay in forwarding this. It came to light only today, having been covered by other items in a heavy "backlog" pile. That is the explanation--but it is hardly an excuse, and I ask your forgiveness.

Sincerely yours,

REDACTED  
REDACTED

Enclosure

17042

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 1994  
TO: CARDINAL MAHONY  
FROM: MONSIGNOR DYER  
RE: REV. JOHN DAWSON

Attached are the latest reports on Fr. John Dawson.

*Thanks for the info - and let  
the info -*

*RKH*

*9-30-94*

17030



SERVANTS  
of the  
PARACLETE



# The Albuquerque Villa

A Residential Therapeutic Treatment & Resource Center

September 27, 1994

REDACTED

Center for Pastoral Care  
St. Camillus De Lellis  
1911 Zonal Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90033-1032

Dear Father <sup>REDACTED</sup>

First, I want to thank you for once again giving of your time for the meeting on behalf of John Dawson. It has proven to be not only helpful, but a critical part of his progress in the program to have these regularly scheduled conferences. Your input has been most valuable.

REDACTED

2348 Pajarito Road, S.W., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87105  
Telephone: (505) 873-0647 FAX: (505) 877-9571

REDACTED

I hope this does clear up the picture that I was concerned you may have left with. If you have any comments or questions, please give me a call. Thank you again for your time and contributions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sarah Brennan".

Sarah Brennan, Ph.D.  
Clinical Director

cc: Monsignor Timothy Dyer

17029

REDACTED

16 November 1994

Rev. Msgr. Timothy Dyer  
Vicar for Clergy  
1531 West Ninth Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Dear Tim,

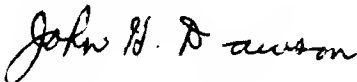
I understand you will be coming out for a visit and staff meeting  
sometime during the first week of December

REDACTED

I am open to any questions and/or suggestions you may have.

Please call the Villa to confirm the date you will be arriving. I  
look forward to meeting with you next month. May you have a safe  
and pleasant Thanksgiving holiday.

Sincerely yours,



John H. Dawson

17023



# The Albuquerque Villa

A Residential Therapeutic Treatment & Resource Center

November 21, 1994

Rev. Monsignor Timothy Dyer  
Archdiocese of Los Angeles  
1531 West 9th St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Re: Rev. John Dawson

Dear Monsignor Dyer:

This is the progress report for Father John Dawson covering the period from  
September 9 to November 3, 1994, at the Albuquerque Villa. REDACTED  
REDACTED

2348 Pajarito Road, S.W., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87105  
Telephone: (505) 873-0647 FAX: (505) 877-9571

17016

*Rev. John Dawson, Progress Report, Pg. 5*

REDACTED

Sincerely,



Sarah Brennan, Ph.D.  
Clinical Director  
The Albuquerque Villa

*PLEASE NOTE: The contents of this report are confidential, and protected by law. They may not be discussed with anyone except those for whom a written release has been signed by the client. If you would like to return this copy of the report to us following your review of it, you are welcome to do so. It will be maintained in the client's confidential file with the Servants of the Paraclete.*

cc: Father John Dawson  
REDACTED

17020

**PLANNING MEETING: JOHN DAWSON**  
**THE ALBUQUERQUE VILLA**  
**DECEMBER 7, 1994**

REDACTED

Rev. Dyer stated at the beginning of the meeting that he and <sup>REDACTED</sup> were there to express support for the work that Rev. Dawson had done and for the decisions that he and the staff had come to regarding his future plans for employment after leaving the Villa program. He added that he had some questions and concerns about aftercare that he would like to address during the meeting.

Rev. Dawson proceeded to review his process in treatment since the last visit to the present. He stated that he felt he was in a good place psychologically and spiritually. He affirmed that his main and top priority now is his continued sexual sobriety; everything else has to fit within this value and support it.

Rev. Dawson revealed how he now feels more free to be open to speak with the staff and invite their reflections and observations on his plans. He is more able to make his plans in consultation with staff and other residents without feeling that he is sacrificing his independence and autonomy. He is in a process of strengthening the process he is in by making conscious decisions to consult with others even when this might not seem necessary. He attends two AA and SA meetings a week. He travels outside to attend church once a week in order to experience a wider range of options available to him in the community.

Rev. Dyer asked about his job environment and future living situation. Rev. Dawson related the history of his job search in Costa Mesa and his decision to turn it down when he found that he would be required to supervise youth. He stated this as an example of how he feels he has interiorized the process and is now able to discern dangerous situations and avoid them through his own decisions.

Rev. Dawson went on to describe another job offered by the same man. He was elated to find that another possibility turned up and saw it as an affirmation of his previous effort to make decisions based on his need to protect his sobriety above all else. This job is more compatible with his program of sobriety. It enables him to remain in

17005

Albuquerque where he has a supportive network of persons to help him in his program.

His living situation will enable him to count on the support of <sup>REDACTED</sup> <sup>REDACTED</sup> with whom he will be sharing an apartment. This not only has the advantage of living with someone who is in the same program, but offers financial advantages as well. He stated that he will be continuing in counseling with Dr. <sup>REDACTED</sup> and spiritual direction with <sup>REDACTED</sup>

He will have his plan in place by the middle of January. He will use the intervening time to get moved.

Rev. Dyer asked him to review the details of his continuing care under the auspices of the Albuquerque Villa.

To this Rev. Dawson replied that he will be maintaining contact, formal and informal, with the Albuquerque Villa residents and staff. He also stated that he will return regularly to the Albuquerque Villa for scheduled aftercare visits as defined by Albuquerque Villa aftercare policies.

Rev. Dyer mentioned that Rev. Dawson had previously experienced transitions as times of severe stress and cautioned him about maintaining close ties to the Villa and staff during this time.

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED



REDACTED

REDACTED spoke of a time frame for continuing care. Dr. REDACTED spoke of the Continuing Care contract which includes all elements listed by Rev. Dawson. He will return in about six months and possibly another six months after that. The over all time frame is about a year and a half and then the process and continuing care will be reassessed. In principle the process remains open ended.

17008

REDACTED

REDACTED and Dyer spoke of concrete matters like the continuation of health insurance, laicization and practical matters associated with Rev. Dawson's connection with the Archdiocese of L.A. If any calls are received pertaining to allegations, it will make a difference whether or not Rev. Dawson is laicized. In the event that he chooses not to be laicized they will have to ask his cooperation in these matters. The matter of a possible program of reimbursement was mentioned. It is the expectation that something will come back to the Archdiocese when Rev. Dawson becomes a wage earner. Rev. Dawson stated that he understood the position of the Archdiocese.

Rev. Dyer stated that it would be up to John to decide whether or not he would select to be laicized.

REDACTED

Rev. Dyer asked Rev. Dawson to write up his plan and state his needs from the Archdiocese as well as a statement about what he plans to do to help himself into and through the transition.

MEMORANDUMDecember 12, 1994

TO: Cardinal Mahony  
FROM: Father Timothy Dyer  
RE: Fr. John Dawson

Attached is the latest report on Fr. Dawson which was written prior to my visit. (It has just arrived in our office.)

Revised

+ Rmk

12-15-94

17015



---

MEMORANDUM      CONFIDENTIAL

---

December 12, 1994

TO: CARDINAL MAHONY

FROM: REDACTED

RE: MEETING AT VILLA ALBUQUERQUE, DECEMBER 7, 1994

REDACTED

Monsignor Dyer and I support John Dawson's proposal, endorsed unanimously by the Villa Staff, that he move out of the Villa January 1, 1995. The plan is to start a job managing a small T-shirt dye and print plant. A fellow member of SA is offering this job, assuring John that he will be able to handle this operation quite well. John plans to share an apartment with REDACTED, a priest of the Diocese of El Paso who recently graduated from the Villa. An interesting note: REDACTED is about to formally petition for laicization and thinks John should do the same. He claims, in view of the fact that ministry is forever out of reach, that laicization helps make the change of lifestyle clean and healthy.

COMMENTS:

Father John Dawson: "My priority is sobriety--everything else is subordinated to that. So I've discussed everything about my move with the people here."

Monsignor Dyer: "After your Phoenix trip [during which John impulsively committed to purchase a mobile home and inquired about work at an institution for boys], the staff thought you might have to leave the Villa [as untreatable]. Only six months later, they all say you're ready to live and work almost completely independently. Where do you think you're vulnerable?"

Father Dawson:--replied that loneliness and self-imposed isolation are his chief vulnerabilities. He feels that his commitment to AA and SA, living with a person active in the same path of recovery, and his new habit of discussing all significant issues with a therapist and friends will create a life in which loneliness will not have its old power.

17021

12/12/94 - RE JOHN DAWSON

Page 2

Dr. REDACTED  
REDACTED

As John Dawson moves out of the Villa, he is committing himself to weekly therapy with REDACTED and week-long aftercare sessions at the Villa every six months.

*can  
rest  
when!*

Both Monsignor Dyer and I were impressed by John's obvious progress and the staff's enthusiastic appraisal. But we cautioned that the upcoming change might be more traumatic than John is expecting, and the job may not turn out the way he hopes. We reminded him that he is still responsible in principle for the expense of therapy for victims who have come forward and any others who might do so in the future. We invited him again to give us the names of any other victims he may recall, so that we can offer them help.

*Please keep me informed -*

*+ RHW*

*12-12-94*

17022

C-File John Dawson

# The Albuquerque Villa



SERVANTS  
of the  
PARACLETE

A Residential Therapeutic Treatment & Resource Center

December 14, 1994

Rev. Monsignor Timothy Dyer  
Archdiocese of Los Angeles  
1531 West 9th St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Re: Rev. John Dawson

Dear Monsignor Dyer:

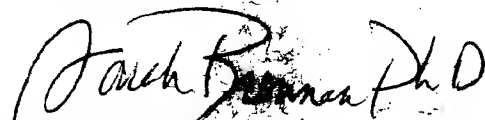
Enclosed is REDACTED summary of the discharge and planning meeting for Fr. John Dawson. Please review it, and if there are any corrections or questions, let us know.

To follow will be the formal discharge report for Fr. Dawson, as well as his detailed Continuing Care plan, which we discussed at the closure meeting.

Thank you for again coming to the Villa for this meeting. It is always a pleasure to see you and REDACTED and please give him my regards.

I wish you a happy and blessed Christmas season, and all the best in the New Year.

Very Sincerely,



Sarah Brennan, Ph.D.  
Clinical Director  
The Albuquerque Villa

cc: Fr. John Dawson  
REDACTED

**DISCHARGE SUMMARY****DECEMBER 15, 1994**

- I. Identifying Data:      Name: Reverend John Dawson  
                                 Date of Birth: May 25, 1941

Fr. John Dawson is a 53-year-old Roman Catholic priest of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. He was suspended from ministry and has been in treatment for the past two years. The first course of his treatment was at St. Luke's Institute. He was then transferred to the Albuquerque Villa, where has been in therapy for the past year. He has now obtained employment, and continues to be separated from the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

- II. Referral Source: Fr. Dawson was referred to the Albuquerque Villa by St. Luke's Institute, and the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The liaisons with the Archdiocese have been Monsignor Timothy Dyer REDACTED

- III. Presenting Problem: Fr. Dawson was accused of sexual molestation of a minor-aged male, to which he admitted. He has subsequently acknowledged that he had sexual contact with several other under-aged males in previous years.

REDACTED

*Rev. John Dawson, Discharge & Final Summary Report, Page 2*

REDACTED

VII. Plans for Continuing Care: Fr. Dawson's plans for Continuing Care include: on-going individual psychotherapy; continuing spiritual direction; attending SA and AA meetings weekly; and returning to the Albuquerque Villa in approximately six months for a Continuing Care workshop week, at which time his situation will be reassessed. He also has found employment and an apartment, which he will be sharing with a roommate who is also in recovery, and with whom he attends the SA and AA meetings.

Submitted by:

REDACTED

*PLEASE NOTE: The contents of this report are confidential, and protected by law. They may not be discussed with anyone except those for whom a written release has been signed by the client. If you would like to return this copy of the report to us following your review of it, you are welcome to do so. It will be maintained in the client's confidential file with the Servants of the Paraclete.*



SERVANTS  
of the  
PARACLETE



# The Albuquerque Villa

A Residential Therapeutic Treatment & Resource Center

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONTINUING CARE

**Rev. John Dawson  
Albuquerque Villa Program  
Albuquerque, New Mexico**

1. It is recommended that therapy and spiritual direction continue for Father Dawson. He will be seeing Dr. REDACTED for individual therapy, and REDACTED in spiritual direction.
2. In approximately six months, a determination of future contacts will be made in consultation with the Fr. Dawson and the staff.
3. Father Dawson will return to the Albuquerque Villa for his first follow-up workshop approximately six months after leaving the program. Also, he will return for the second follow-up workshop twelve to eighteen months from the departure date. During these follow-up workshops, Father Dawson will meet with his individual therapist, spiritual director, program director, and director of Continuing Care. At the conclusion of each follow-up workshop, these recommendations will be evaluated and revised accordingly. After the second follow-up workshop, a decision by the program staff in consultation with Father Dawson will be made to schedule further Continuing Care programs such as seminars, retreats, additional workshops and visits for the future.
4. Father Dawson will be considered in Continuing Care following the procedures outlined above and on the attached sheet. Father Dawson will also be invited to participate at his discretion in retreats and workshops here at the Albuquerque Villa with former residents. Father Dawson will also be welcome to visit the Albuquerque Villa at any time during or after this period of Continuing Care.

**Departure Date: December 18, 1994**

17013

2348 Pajarito Road, S.W., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87105  
Telephone: (505) 873-0647 FAX: (505) 877-9571

### A Plan of Continuing Care

The Continuing Care Plan for the Albuquerque Villa program is designed to provide the former resident with an ongoing process of care and support following residential therapeutic treatment. The necessary flexibility is designed into the plan so that changes and recommendations can be made as one moves through the follow-up program. The initial recommendations usually include continued psychotherapy, spiritual direction, monthly telephone contact with the Albuquerque Villa Program, an on-site visit within the first two months following departure from the program, and two follow-up weeks at the Albuquerque Villa. Ongoing supervision is also recommended in some cases. After every followup week and after the completion of every component, a report is written as to what future steps should be taken in continuing care. This report is submitted to the former resident and superior after each visit and follow-up week.

After the first six months of continuing care, recommendations for the plan of continuing care might be as minimal as simply to contact the Albuquerque Villa if needed or may involve other more supportive procedures such as continued therapy, spiritual direction, group therapy, monitoring, monthly contact with director of continuing care, visit from staff therapist or director, further participation in followup weeks, etc. Such determinations will be made and will be communicated to both the former resident and his legitimate religious / diocesan superior all throughout the continuing care process.

It is the desire of the program staff to provide as much support and encouragement to our former residents as we possibly can. Each former resident will receive periodic information concerning special programs, seminars and retreats here at the Albuquerque Villa through our newsletter for former residents, *Continuing the Journey*.

It is our belief that the continuing care process is one of the most important components of the therapeutic process of holistic treatment. It is that critical time when the hard work done by a resident of the Albuquerque Villa program is finally put into practice. Whether the resident returns to active ministry, requests a temporary leave of absence from community or diocese, or seeks a new way of life, the continuing care process is that transition time from residential treatment to ministry and/or work.

Again, this plan of continuing care is flexible and will be adjusted to the needs of the former resident. A person can be considered in continuing care up to five years. Reports will be made after each component is completed and further recommendations may be made. Reports of visits and followup weeks will be sent to the bishop / superior of the former resident as well as any revisions in the plan.

*The Staff of the Albuquerque Villa Program*

REDACTED

I am expecting a letter  
from J. Dawson (this - it  
may go directly to the  
REDACTED re his future relation-

ships - the AD - including  
financial relationships. As soon

as it comes in - we'll  
discuss it - until  
then - things can remain as they  
are

REDACTED

This reason  
happened

1/26

17003

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUMFebruary 18, 1995

TO: Cardinal Mahony  
 FROM: Father Timothy Dyer <sup>(T)</sup>  
 RE: Fr. John Dawson

The attached letter comes from Fr. Dawson who, as I explained in my last memo, left Albuquerque Villa in December to reside in Albuquerque and take a job which had been offered him by his S.A. sponsor. That job offer has unfortunately fallen through and Fr. Dawson is now seeking employment elsewhere.

I had asked Fr. Dawson, when his plan for leaving the Villa was approved in December, to write you a proposal about his relationship with the Archdiocese, his financial needs eventual independence from the Archdiocese in that regard, as well as his plan to reimburse the Archdiocese for victims' therapy, attorney fees and the cost of his own therapy. He briefly addresses these questions in this letter -- asking for continued assistance on a temporary basis since his job did not come through.

I am in touch with the counselors at the Villa with whom he continues in therapy and they attest to the seriousness of his efforts to find employment. I would suggest we continue health insurance for six months, continue to cover the cost of his weekly therapy (as that is the best source of accountability of his behavior and stimulus for his recovery program). I would suggest we leave him on salary three more months (March through May) and then review his situation.

Fr. Dawson does not address <sup>crucial</sup> the issue of laicization and has told me he would do so once he feels the security of being established in business and residence.

*more formal as you have suggested -*

*+ RMH*

*2-22-95*

16987



COPY

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of  
Vicar for Clergy  
(213) 251-32841531  
West Ninth  
StreetLos Angeles  
California  
90015-1194

March 7, 1995

John Dawson  
REDACTED

Dear John:

Greetings. I will be calling you this week, but wish to put in writing Cardinal Mahony's response to your February 5, 1995 letter.

The Archdiocese will continue your health insurance coverage during the coming six months (March through August 1995), cover the cost of your weekly therapy at the Villa, and continue to send you a check equivalent to your salary benefits from March through May 1995. By May 1, you will need to contact me, so as to review your situation.

While the Archdiocese wants to support you in every way possible in your acquiring employment, there are some limitations as to the kind of employment recommendations we can give. Certainly, your original job offer was ideal--as it included accountability and the presence of an employer with full knowledge of your history and rehabilitation.

Once you are established in a job, the Archdiocese will begin to cut back on benefits, so that you can live independently. At that time, we will also want to discuss the procedures for laicization.

I know your present efforts to get established in work and residence are proving difficult. Again, I will be in touch with you this week.

May God bless you.

In Christ,

(Rev. Msgr.) Timothy J. Dyer  
Vicar for Clergy

REDACTED

Handwritten notes and stamps:

- Jan
- Feb
- Mar
- April
- May

16984

**Continuing Care Memorandum for John Dawson by REDACTED Ph.D.  
June 30, 1995**

John was unable to attend the followup week at Foundation House, because of his work schedule. In lieu of that, he did contact me for an individual continuing care meeting.

John has been in regular weekly individual psychotherapy with Dr. REDACTED since his discharge from the Albuquerque Villa. After a period of difficulty finding work (the job he had been offered did not materialize), John is now gainfully employed as a night auditor for a motel chain REDACTED. The pay rate is not very good, but he does receive benefits and the possibility for future advancement. He is very happy in this work also. He has received a lot of support, encouragement, and appreciation from his supervisor. He has approached the work with honesty and conscientiousness. It has also provided him with the opportunity to meet other employees, and he has established a most supportive and healthy relationship with a woman who is also an auditor, and she has helped him a great deal.

In addition, John has continued attending SA groups faithfully. There he has friends who provide him support and reality testing. He also has made some friends at church.

REDACTED

We discussed a release of information regarding this session, and he stated that he approved my forwarding a report of this meeting to the archdiocese. He has not been in touch with them, but said that he does intend to do so, apparently around finances. He is not pursuing laicization at this time.

16981

[REDACTED] REDACTED

3 July 1995

Dear Tim,

Greetings from REDACTED

We were going to review my situation in May. This letter is for that purpose.

Things are going well at work, as a desk clerk and night auditor for Motel 6. I am making [REDACTED] an hour and full benefits will begin one month after I have worked for one complete year. I am living with REDACTED whom you have met. We have purchased a townhouse together. Getting started involves a lot of expenses.

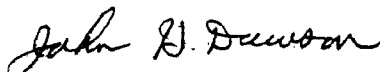
I am asking to have my salary and medical benefits continue until I have completed one year of work which will be at the end of April 1996.

Would you continue to pay for therapy with REDACTED until the end of 1995?

Please send me a copy of the Archdiocesan <sup>process</sup> policy on retirement for priests.

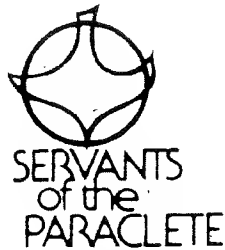
I hope all is well with you and come and visit when you are able.

Sincerely yours,



John H. Dawson REDACTED  
REDACTED

16982



P.O. Box 10 Jemez Springs, New Mexico 87025-0010 (505) 829-3586 FAX (505) 829-3706

July 18, 1995

Rev Msgr. Timothy Dyer  
1531 W 9th Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

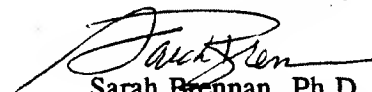
Dear Msgr. Dyer:

Attached is a brief summary of my continuing care meeting with John Dawson. You will note that he is gainfully employed and has successfully established his secular life. He seems to be doing well, and is conscientiously following his recovery program.

The two areas that will probably be of most interest to you, other than being informed that he is doing well, are: he does not wish to seek laicization at this time; and he intends to contact you regarding financial assistance. I do not know the details of what he may be asking. Also, regarding laicization, John talks about not being ready "at this time", but he does not rule it out for the future.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

  
Sarah Brennan, Ph.D.  
Clinical Director  
Foundation House

cc: REDACTED

16980





MEMORANDUMAugust 4, 1995

TO: Cardinal Mahony  
FROM: Father Timothy Dyer TD  
RE: Fr. John Dawson

John Dawson has written to inform me that he now has a security job -- making [REDACTED] hour. He will receive full benefits in April of 1996 and requests that the Archdiocese extend his RETA benefits until that time. He also asks that the Archdiocese cover the cost of his ongoing weekly therapy with REDACTED -- the same psychhiatrist who treated him at Albuquerque Villa.

I would recommend both these requests be granted. The director of therapeutic services for Albuquerque Villa has written to say that John is doing well and maintaining sobriety.

16979

**CONFIDENTIAL**MEMORANDUMAugust 4, 1995

**TO:** Cardinal Mahony  
**FROM:** Father Timothy Dyer TD  
**RE:** Fr. John Dawson

John Dawson has written to inform me that he now has a security job -- making [REDACTED]. He will receive full benefits in April of 1996 and requests that the Archdiocese extend his RETA benefits until that time. He also asks that the Archdiocese cover the cost of his ongoing weekly therapy with REDACTED -- the same psychiatrist who treated him at REDACTED

I would recommend both these requests be granted. The director of therapeutic services for REDACTED has written to say that John is doing well and maintaining sobriety.

*I concur - sounds like he  
is doing just great!*

*+ Rkh*

*8-5-95*

16976

REDACTED

8/7

Pls note for J. Lawan:

RETA to continue  
through April 96.

Also - bills from  
REDACTED will continue

Pls send this  
letter to John D.

↓

16977



COPY

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

REDACTED

1531  
West Ninth  
StreetLos Angeles  
California  
90015-1194

August 18, 1995

Rev. John Dawson  
REDACTED

Dear John:

Summer greetings.

The Cardinal has reviewed the requests in your recent letter. Accordingly, RETA benefits will continue through April 1996, and counseling bills from REDACTED may continue to be sent to my office.

I am happy to hear that you have made a transition to employment and a good living situation.

I will pass on to my successor, Monsignor Richard Loomis (who takes over as Vicar for Clergy January 1, 1996) an understanding of your situation. You will certainly continue to be welcomed by this Office. In the future, you may wish to apply for laicization--and Monsignor Loomis with Monsignor Cox will be ready to assist.

For my part, you will continue to be in my thoughts and prayers, and I hope we can stay in contact beyond my time in this Office.

May God bless you.

In Christ,

(Rev. Msgr.) Timothy J. Dyer  
Vicar for Clergy

/lbm

16975

REDACTED

(victim)

DATE 12/13/96

REDACTED

PAGE 7:00 PM to 3:30 PM

REDACTED

&gt; 70's -

- 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grade + altar boy + school
- used to hold me in front of him in school & rub his penis in my back
- groped & fondled me
- don't remember any groos, mainly afraid, but I do remember running from the rectory w/ my zipper (when our right lived near by)
- felt he was honoring me w/ attention in front of others & alone

Confusion

Offered therapy - His Dr. may call

REDACTED

Asked to be compensated for his time out of work for therapy - I said, 'no.'

16969

REDACTED

---

**From:** Msgr. Richard Loomis  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 18, 1996 9:46 AM  
**To:** REDACTED  
**Subject:**

Could you please make a copy of my notes on the conversation with Mr. REDACTED for REDACTED Thanks!

**FYI**

Notes on the 12/13/96 - 2:00 PM Meeting of Msgr. Loomis  
 with REDACTED re: alleged abuse by Rev. John Dawson  
in the garden in front of the Poor Clare's Monastery, Santa Barbara

Mr. REDACTED address and phone are:  
 REDACTED

REDACTED  
 Mr. REDACTED said that the abuse occurred in the early '70's in Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish. He was in 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grade and participated in altar servers and went to the parish school. He started remembering this during a recent conversation with a friend about an article in the paper on child abuse. Mr. REDACTED commented that he had never experienced such things when he was growing up. His friend said, "Don't you remember Fr. Dawson?" He said, "Oh, yes." It was not so much that he had suppressed the memories. It was just that he had not thought about any of this in many, many years. Now, he was thinking about it and was very angry. At the same time he is confused because he loves the Church, the sacraments and God.

In summary Mr. REDACTED said:  
*Fr. Dawson used to hold me in front of him in school. I felt very proud to be the one he chose to be with in front of all my friends. He would rub his penis against my back. I only actually understood what he was doing later. I remember that he groped and fondled me at different times and got me to go into the rectory with him some times. I don't remember any gross or "gnarly" abuse but I do remember running from the rectory one evening with my zipper open. We lived very near the rectory. I felt he was honoring me with attention in front of others and when we were alone. The main outcome of this is confusion. I have this confusion in me about things. I love the Church. I don't want to hurt my spiritual life but I do think I there are things I need to work through. He hurt me and I trusted him.*

I said that the Church would never condone inappropriate behavior like he was describing. In a different way, the Church is also the victim of clergy who act wrongly. I offered to assist him with obtaining counseling. He said he already had a therapist from his divorce three years ago though he had not seen him for some time. The therapist's name is REDACTED. The therapist will call REDACTED if REDACTED chooses to renew therapy so that we can assure that he has the necessary training and background.

Mr. REDACTED also asked if he could be compensated for time lost from work in therapy. I said we were not in a position to promise that. However, most therapists have times for sessions which are outside work hours just for that reason. The entire conversation was amicable. Mr. REDACTED was very believable. We parted at 3:00 PM.

16952

MAY 13 1997

ARCHBISHOP ROGER MAHONEY  
 1531 WEST NINTH ST.  
 LOS ANGELES, CA. 90015

REDACTED

DEAR CARDINAL MAHONEY

AFTER LEAVING THE ALBUQUERQUE VILLA IN DECEMBER 1994  
 I HAVE TRIED VARIOUS WORK EXPERIENCES. JAN. 1995 - APRIL 1995  
 A NIGHT CLERK IN A CONVENIENCE STORE; APRIL 1995 - JUNE 1996  
 A NIGHT AUDITOR AND MANAGER FOR MOTEL 6; JUNE 1996  
 TO THE PRESENT A SALES ASSOCIATE FOR A DEPARTMENT  
 STORE.

I HAVE DECIDED ON A CAREER THAT I WOULD  
 LIKE BUT IT REQUIRES SOME VOCATIONAL RE-TRAINING.

I AM ASKING THAT THE ARCHDIOCESE HELP ME WITH  
 THE TUITION FOR THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING. DURING THE SCHOOLING  
 I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO WORK FULL TIME.

I THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP IN THE PAST AND  
 ASK GOD'S BLESSINGS ON YOU AND THE CHURCH OF  
 LOS ANGELES.

SINCERELY, YOURS

John H. Dawson

16964



## MAIL REFERRAL

TO:

*Mag. Scenic*

FROM:

REDACTED

DATE:

*3-17-97*

THE ATTACHED CORRESPONDENCE HAS BEEN REFERRED TO YOUR OFFICE:

☐ To answer for the Cardinal; send copy to his office

☐ To prepare reply for the Cardinal's signature

☒ To handle entirely

☐ For your information

☐ For your files

REMARKS:

---

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

16963



RECEIVED
MAR 26 1997
BY: _____

---

## MEMORANDUM

---

**To:** REDACTED

**From:** Monsignor Richard Loomis

**Date:** Tuesday, March 25, 1997

**Re:** Father John Dawson

Please make a request for a check for **John Dawson** in the amount requested in the attached tuition agreement for pet grooming.

Then draft a cover letter:

- that we are happy he has found a career
- noting that we are acceding to his request
- that this will be the last financial support provided by the Archdiocese
- that another victim has come forward
  - that we are providing this person with therapeutic services
  - that in accord with Archdiocesan policy, we will shortly begin billing him for these services
- that if he wishes to request laicization at some time in the future, we will be happy to assist him with his petition

I'll review it and go from there.

Thanks!

16960

**DRAFT**

March 25, 1997

Reverend John Dowson  
REDACTED

)

Dear Father Dowson:

Cardinal Mahony has asked me to acknowledge your letter of March 12, 1997 together with the enclosures which you sent along. He was pleased to learn that you have found a career that you like.


With respect to your request for assistance, I am enclosing a check for [REDACTED] to help you with the full cost of your vocational training. However, this will be the last financial support that the Archdiocese will provide for you.

I also want you to be aware that another victim has come forward, and we are providing this person with therapeutic services. Therefore, in accord with Archdiocesan policy, we will shortly begin billing you for these services.

If you decide to request laicization at some time in the future, we will be willing to assist you with your petition.

May the Lord give you a blessed Easter.

Pax!

 REDACTED  
REDACTED

Reverend Monsignor Richard A. Loomis  
Vicar for Clergy

16959

REDACTED

Client: REDACTED  
Address: John Dawson

Diagnosis: REDACTED  
REDACTED

SERVICES AND CHARGES PREVIOUS BALANCE

DATE	PROCEDURE CODE	CHARGE	CREDIT	BALANCE
3-3-97	2 hours	160 x 2 = 320	Ø	320
3-10-97	2 hours	160 x 2 = 320	Ø	640
3-17-97	1 hr	160 x 1 = 160	Ø	800
3-24-97	2 hrs	160 x 2 = 320	Ø	1120

Total

CPT PROCEDURE CODES

- |                            |       |
|----------------------------|-------|
| 1. Psychotherapy 45 min    | 90844 |
| 2. Psychotherapy 75 min    | 90842 |
| 3. Family Therapy          | 90847 |
| 4. Group Therapy           | 90852 |
| 5. Repetitive TMS (15 min) | 90845 |
| 6. Telemedicine (15 min)   | 90831 |

Provider: REDACTED  
SSN: REDACTED  
REDACTED  
REDACTED

16946



● COPY

---

Archdiocese of Los AngelesOffice of  
Vicar for Clergy  
(213) 637-72843424  
Wilshire  
BoulevardLos Angeles  
California  
90010-2241

---

April 4, 1997

Reverend John Dawson  
REDACTED

Dear Father Dawson:

Cardinal Mahony has asked me to acknowledge your letter of March 12, 1997 together with the enclosures which you sent along. He was pleased to learn that you have found a career that you like.

With respect to your request for assistance, I am enclosing a check for [REDACTED] to help you with the full cost of your vocational training. However, this will be the last financial support that the Archdiocese will provide for you.

I also want you to be aware that another victim has come forward, and we are providing this person with therapeutic services. Therefore, in accord with Archdiocesan policy, we will shortly begin billing you for these services.

If you decide to request laicization at some time in the future, we will be willing to assist you with your petition.

May the Lord give you a blessed Easter.

Pax!

Reverend Monsignor Richard A. Loomis  
Vicar for Clergy

REDACTED

16957

REDACTED

---

**From:** REDACTED  
**Sent:** Monday, June 09, 1997 2:50 PM  
**To:** REDACTED  
**Subject:** FW: Call from Mr. REDACTED

REDACTED

Did you get this message?

REDACTED

---

**From:** Loomis, Msgr. Richard  
**Sent:** Monday, June 09, 1997 2:48 PM  
**To:** REDACTED  
**Subject:** RE: Call from Mr. REDACTED

REDACTED, Could you look this person up in your victim file and give me info on him? I'm leaving for Camarillo. If you could call on my cellular, I'd appreciate it.

Thanks!

---

**From:** REDACTED  
**Sent:** Monday, June 09, 1997 11:17 AM  
**To:** Loomis, Msgr. Richard  
**Subject:** Call from Mr. REDACTED

Mr. REDACTED called on 6/9/97 at 11:07 a.m. He would like you to call him at REDACTED. He said you would know what it's about.

REDACTED

## CLERGY DATABASE

st:Dawson

Title:Rev.

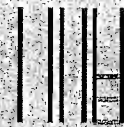
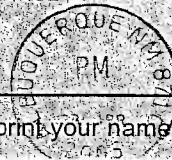
First: John

Middle:H.

lor Blue

/15/92 Cardinal indicated Administrative Leave immediately. Address for victim  
 REDACTED 01/94 He left Albuquerque  
 lla and took up private residence. He is supposed to write as to his present  
 tuation, what he is asking from Archdiocese, how he plans "to begin paying  
 ck all the bills from victims which Archdiocese has picked up. 12/13/96 Notes  
 the meeting of the Vicar with REDACTED re: alleged abuse by Father: Mr.  
 REDACTED said the abuse occurred in the early '70's in Our Lady of Mount Carmel  
 rish. He was in the 3rd or 4th grade. Fr. groped and fondled him at different  
 mes and got him to go into the rectory with him some times. The Vicar offered  
 assist him with obtaining counseling. The entire conversation was amicable.  
 REDACTED was very believable. Phone REDACTED 12/19/96 REDACTED will be in  
 r protocol. 03/12/97 wrote to the Card. to inform him that he has tried  
 rious work experiences. Recently, he decided on a career that he would like,  
 t it requires some vocation retraining -- grooming pets. Therefore, he is  
 king the Ad. to help him with the tuition as he will not be able to work  
 rt-time during his training. 04/04/97 Msgr. Loomis answered his letter and  
 cluded a ck. for [REDACTED]. However, he was informed that this will be the  
 st financial support that the Ad. will provide for him. He was also informed  
 at another victim has come forward, and that we are providing this person with  
 erapeutic services. Consequently, in accord with Ad. policy, we will shortly  
 gin billing him for these services. Msgr. offered him to help him in case he  
 cides to request laicization. 10/13/97 Dr. REDACTED the therapist for REDACTED  
 REDACTED informed us that on 10/05/97 he had closed the case.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE



First-Class Mail  
Postage & Fees Paid  
USPS  
Permit No. G-10

• Sender: Please print your name, address, and ZIP+4 in this box •

REDACTED

Archdiocese of Santa Fe  
4000 St. Joseph Pl., NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87120

02





SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION		COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY	
<p>■ Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.</p> <p>■ Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.</p> <p>■ Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.</p>		<p>A. Signature  X <i>John H. Dawson</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Agent  <input type="checkbox"/> Addressee</p>	
<p>1. Article Addressed to:</p> <p>John H. Dawson  Villa de Paz  REDACTED</p>		<p>B. Received by (Printed Name) C. Date of Delivery  4-29-05</p>	
		<p>D. Is delivery address different from item 1? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes  If YES, enter delivery address below: <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
		<p>3. Service Type  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Express Mail  <input type="checkbox"/> Registered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt for Merchandise  <input type="checkbox"/> Insured Mail <input type="checkbox"/> C.O.D.</p>	
<p>2. Article Number  (Transfer from service label)</p>		<p>4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p>	
		<p>7003 2260 0005 8327 3921</p>	
PS Form 3811, February 2004		Domestic Return Receipt 102595-02-M-1540	

**SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION**

- Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.
- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:

John H. Dawson  
REDACTED

**COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY**

A. Signature

X

John H. Dawson

☐ Agent☐ Addressee

B. Received by (Printed Name)

John Dawson

C. Date of Delivery

2/2/07

D. Is delivery address different from item 1? ☐ YesIf YES, enter delivery address below: ☐ No

3. Service Type

☒ Certified Mail☐ Express Mail☐ Registered☐ Return Receipt for Merchandise☐ Insured Mail☐ C.O.D.

4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee)

☐ Yes

2. Article Number

(Transfer from service label)

7005 1160 0005 1652 4719

PS Form 3811, February 2004

Domestic Return Receipt

102595-02-M-1540

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

ALBUQUERQUE NM 871

02 FEB 2007 PM 4 L

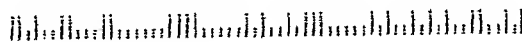
First-Class Mail  
Postage & Fees Paid  
USPS  
Permit No. G-10

• REDACTED

is, and ZIP+4 in this box •

Archdiocese of Los Angeles  
3424 Wilshire Blvd  
Los Angeles, CA 90010

1202





Archdiocese of Los Angeles

REDACTED

3424  
Wilshire  
Boulevard

Los Angeles  
California  
90010-2202

28 February 2007

**CONFIDENTIAL**

RE: Laicization of John Henry Dawson, Annotation of Baptismal Record

The Rev. Pastor/Parish Administrator  
Saint John the Baptist Church  
444 St. John Street  
Unity, PA 15239

Dear Pastor/Parish Administrator,

On 18 January 2005 the Pope John Paul II, acceding to a request for laicization made to him by **John Henry Dawson**, dispensed Father Dawson from all obligations connected to Sacred Orders and returned him to the lay state. This dispensation was communicated to John Henry Dawson and took full effect on 29 April 2005.

John Henry Dawson was born on 25 May 1941, and was baptized at Saint John the Baptist Church, Unity, PA on 29 June 1941. I request that you kindly make a marginal notation of this dispensation in his baptismal record.

The notation should read in these or similar words:

**Dispensation from all Sacred Orders  
(John Henry Dawson - Effective: 29 April 2005)**

*Recorded in  
Vol II pg 78*

I would appreciate it if you would send me written confirmation stating the notation has been made in the baptismal register. I also request you kindly send me a new copy of his baptismal certificate with the above notation. Please notify me of any stipend connected with the issuance of the certificate.

Thanking you for your assistance in this matter, and with prayerful good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

REDACTED

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

# *CERTIFICATE OF BAPTISM*

*St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish  
444 St. John Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15239 – 1396  
412 793-4511*

*This is to certify that:*

*John Henry Dawson*

Child of: REDACTED

Born: May 25, 1941

*Was Baptized according to the rite  
Of the Roman Catholic Church*

On: June 29, 1941

By: REDACTED

Sponsors: REDACTED

*As appears in the Baptismal Register of this Church  
Recorded in: Vol. II Page 78*

Date: *March 5, 2007*  
REDACTED

Remarks: Subdiaconate May 28, 1966  
St. John Seminary Camarillo, California  
Dispensation from All Sacred Orders April 29, 2005



# FILE COPY

REDACTED

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

3424  
Wilshire  
Boulevard

Los Angeles  
California  
90010-2202

25 January 2007

John H. Dawson  
REDACTED

Dear Mr. Dawson,

This is a very belated letter to inform you that the Holy Father granted your petition to return to the lay state on 18 January 2005. The rescript, which dispenses from the obligations of the clerical state, is effective as of the moment of notification to you.

On 29 April 2005 you signed the normal postal return receipt form acknowledging receipt of a letter from REDACTED : of the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, in which he advised you that he wished "to execute [on our behalf] the rescript from [the] Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith regarding your case." He invited you to set up a meeting for receiving and signing the papers. He never received a reply.

Regrettably we failed to make a further attempt to contact you until now. In the press of attending other matters, your file was put aside. Please let me apologize for that.

In any event, unless you tell me otherwise, I presume you understood what REDACTED letter meant, that the rescript granting your laicization had come. If this is true, then the effective date was 29 April 2005. If you had no idea what his letter was referring to, then the effective date will be the day you receive this letter.

Enclosed is an original copy of the rescript (in Latin). I ask that you sign the document at the bottom of the back side (on the line marked "Subsignatio Presbyteri"), and put in the date if you wish. Then return the document to me in the envelope provided. As soon as I countersign it, I will send you a photocopy of the completed document.

Also enclosed is an unofficial English translation of the rescript, and a brief explanation of the canons referenced in the document.

I pray for your well being, and hope that your accepting and signing the document will bring some closure to the past. If you wish to discuss anything, do not hesitate to call me at REDACTED

Sincerely in Christ.  
REDACTED



## CONGREGATIO PRO DOCTRINA FIDEI

Prot. N. 410/2004

*Angolorum in California*  
(Los Angeles, U.S.A.)

D.nus **John H. DAWSON**, presbyter huius dioecesis, humiliter petit dispensationem ab omnibus oneribus sacrae Ordinationi conexas

**Summus Pontifex Ioannes Paulus, Papa II**

Die 18 m. Ianuarii a. 2005

habita relatione de casu a Congregatione pro Doctrina Fidei,  
precibus praedicti sacerdotis annuit iuxta sequentes rationes:

1. Dispensationis Rescriptum a competenti Ordinario oratori quamprimum notificandum est:

- a) Eius effectum sortitur a momento notificationis;
- b) Rescriptum amplectitur inseparabiliter dispensationem a sacro coelibatu et simul amissionem status clericalis. Nunquam oratori fas est duo illa elementa seiungere, seu prius accipere et alterum recusare;
- c) Si vero orator est religiosus, Rescriptum concedit etiam dispensationem a votis;
- d) Idemque insuper secumfert, quatenus opus sit, absolutionem a censuris.

2. Notificatio dispensationis fieri potest vel personaliter ab ipso Ordinario eiusve delegato aut per ecclesiasticum actuarium vel per "epistulas praescriptas" (*registered*). Ordinarius unum exemplar restituere debet rite ab oratore subsignatum ad fidem receptionis Rescripti dispensationis ac simul acceptationis eiusdem praeceptorum.

3. Notitia concessae dispensationis adnotetur in Libris baptizatorum paroeciae oratoris.

4. Quod attinet, si casus ferat, ad celebrationem canonici matrimonii, applicandae sunt normae quae in Codice Iuris Canonici statuuntur. Ordinarius vero curet ut res caute peragantur sine exteriori apparatu.

5. Auctoritas ecclesiastica, cui spectat Rescriptum oratori rite notificare, hunc enixe hortetur, ut vitam Populi Dei, ratione congruendi cum nova eius vivendi condicione, participet, aedificationem praestet et ita probum Ecclesiae filium se exhibeat. Simul autem eidem notum faciat ea quae sequuntur.

- a) *Sacerdos dispensatus eo ipso amittit iura statui clericali propria, dignitates et officia ecclesiastica; ceteris obligationibus cum statu clericali conexas non amplius adstringitur;*
- b) *exclusus manet ab exercitio sacri ministerii, iis exceptis de quibus in can. 976 et 986 § 2 CJC ac propterea nequit homiliam habere, nec potest officium gerere directivum in ambitu pastoralis neve munere administratoris paroecialis fungi;*
- c) *item nullum munus absolvere potest in Seminariis et in Institutis aequiparatis. In aliis Institutis studiorum gradus superioris, quae quocumque modo dependent ab Auctoritate ecclesiastica, munere directivo fungi nequit;*
- d) *in aliis vero Institutis studiorum gradus superioris ab Auctoritate ecclesiastica non dependentibus nullam theologiam disciplinam tradere potest;*
- e) *in Institutis autem studiorum gradus inferioris dependentibus ab Auctoritate ecclesiastica, munere directivo vel officio docendi fungi nequit. Eadem lege tenetur presbyter dimissus ac dispensatus in tradendo Religione in Institutis eiusdem generis non dependentibus ab Auctoritate ecclesiastica.*

6. Ordinarius curet ne presbyter dispensatus, propter defectum debitae prudentiae, fidelibus scandalum praebeat. Haec pastoralis sollicitudo Ordinarium a fortiori gravissime urget si adest periculum quamvis remotum minoribus abutendi.

7. Tempore autem opportuno, Ordinarius competens breviter ad Congregationem de peracta notificatione referat, et si qua tandem fidelium admiratio adsit, prudenti explicatione provideat.

Contrariis quibuscumque minime obstantibus.

Ex Aedibus Congregationis, die 18 m. Januarii a. 2005

*Josephus Card. Ratzinger*

✠ Josephus Card. RATZINGER  
Praefectus

*Angelus Amato*

✠ Angelus AMATO, S.D.B.  
Archiep. titularis Silensis  
*a Secretis*

Dies notificationis \_\_\_\_\_

Subsignatio Presbyteri in signum  
acceptionis

Subsignatio Ordinarii



## CONGREGATION FOR THE DOCTRINE OF THE FAITH

PROT. N.: 410/2004

Los Angeles in California, USA

MR. JOHN H. DAWSON, priest of this [arch]diocese, has humbly requested a dispensation from all obligations pertaining to Sacred Orders.

His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, on 18 January 2005, having received the report on the case from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, has granted the request of the above mentioned presbyter in accord with the following considerations:

1. The Ordinary is to give notice of the Rescript of Dispensation to the petitioner as soon as possible:
  - a) *The rescript takes effect at the moment of notification.*
  - b) *The rescript comprises inseparably a dispensation from sacred celibacy and loss of the clerical state. The petitioner may never lawfully separate those two elements, that is, accept the first and refuse the second.*
  - c) *If the petitioner is a religious, the rescript also grants a dispensation from vows.*
  - d) *In addition, the rescript includes an absolution from censures, if such is needed.*
2. The Ordinary or his delegate may give notice of the dispensation to the petitioner either in person or through an ecclesiastical notary or by means of registered mail. The Ordinary must send back a copy of the document duly signed by petitioner attesting that he has received and accepted both the dispensation and its precepts.
3. Notice of the granting of the dispensation is to be recorded in the baptismal register of the petitioner's parish.
4. In the eventuality of the celebration of a canonical marriage, the norms laid down in the Code of Canon Law are to be applied. But the Ordinary should see to it that such arrangements are carried out discreetly without outward display.
5. The ecclesiastical authority whose responsibility it is to communicate the rescript to the petitioner should earnestly exhort him to participate in the life of the People of God in a manner which is in harmony with his new condition in life, to give good example, and thus to show himself to be an upright son of the Church. At the same time he should inform the petitioner of the following points:
  - a) *A dispensed priest by the fact of his dispensation loses the rights proper to the clerical state and his ecclesiastical dignities and offices. He is no longer bound by the other obligations connected with the clerical state.*

## TRANSLATION: RESCRIPT OF DISPENSATION FROM PRIESTLY ORDERS

- b) *He remains excluded from the exercise of sacred ministry, with the exceptions mentioned in Canons 976 and 986, §2. He cannot, therefore, give a homily. In addition, he cannot assume any directive office in the pastoral field nor perform the duties of a parochial administrator.*
  - c) *Likewise, he cannot perform any functions in seminaries or equivalent institutions. He cannot discharge a directive function in other institutions of higher studies that depend in any way upon ecclesiastical authority.*
  - d) *In institutions of higher studies that do not depend upon ecclesiastical authority, he cannot teach any theological discipline.*
  - e) *In institutions of lower studies that depend upon ecclesiastical authority, he cannot discharge a directive function or the office of teaching. A priest who has been dismissed and dispensed is bound by the same norm in teaching religion at institutions of this type that do not depend upon ecclesiastical authority.*
6. The Ordinary is to take care that the dispensed priest does not become a source of scandal to the faithful on account of a lack of due prudence. This pastoral concern will weigh on the Ordinary all the more seriously if there is a danger however remote of abusing minors.
  7. The Ordinary is to send in a timely fashion a brief report to this Congregation concerning the notification of the rescript; and, if there be any wonderment on the part of the faithful, he should provide a prudent explanation.

All contrary provisions whatsoever notwithstanding.

Given in the Chambers of the Congregation on 18 January 2005.

+ Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger  
Prefect

+ Angelus Amato, S.D.B.  
Archbishop Secretary

## Understanding the Rescript

Section “5, b)” of the rescript makes reference to canons 976 and 986, §2. These canons refer to the ability to give sacramental absolution in danger of death. The texts declare:

Can. 976 – Even though a priest lacks the faculty to hear confessions, he absolves validly and licitly any penitents whatsoever in danger of death from any censures and sins, even if an approved priest is present.

Can. 986, §2 – In urgent necessity, any confessor is obliged to hear the confessions of the Christian faithful, and in danger of death any priest is so obliged.

Canon 976 is quite clear and needs no comment. It is the second clause of canon 986, §2 that applied in this situation. Basically, it states that there is a responsibility to use your power to absolve in order to aid someone in danger of death. Thus, even if that meant revealing your status to others who were not previously aware of that, the need of the penitent in danger of death would be paramount.



Archdiocese of Los Angeles

REDACTED

3424  
Wilshire  
Boulevard

Los Angeles  
California  
90010-2241

14 March 2005

REDACTED

Rev.  
REDACTED

Archdiocese of Santa Fe Catholic Center  
4000 St. Joseph Pl., N.W.  
Albuquerque, NM 87120

REDACTED

Dear

In follow up to our telephone conversation earlier this week, I am sending you the enclosed rescript of laicization for a priest of this Archdiocese who now resides in your Archdiocese, as follows:

John H. Dawson  
REDACTED

As a local ordinary and delegate of His Eminence Cardinal Roger Mahony in this matter, I hereby request that you execute the rescript.

Please note that there are two original copies. Both of them are to be dated and signed by both the petitioner ("subsignatio presbyteri") and by you ("subsignatio ordinarii"), and both original copies need to be returned to me. Once the copies are signed, please make a photocopy of one of them to give to Mr. Dawson.

Enclosed also is an unofficial English translation of the rescript, as well as a brief explanation of the canons referenced in the document. Also, there is another form called a "Notification of Rescript." While this is not required for the valid execution of the rescript, we have found it useful in documenting the notification.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at REDACTED

Thanking you for your kindness in attending to this matter, I remain

Fraternally yours in Christ,  
REDACTED



## CONGREGATIO PRO DOCTRINA FIDEI

Prot. N. 410/2004

*Angelorum in California*  
(Los Angeles, U.S.A.)

D.nus **John H. DAWSON**, presbyter huius dioecesis, humiliter petit dispensationem ab omnibus oneribus sacrae Ordinationi conexis

---

**Summus Pontifex Ioannes Paulus, Papa II**

Die 18 m. Januarii a. 2005

habita relatione de casu a Congregatione pro Doctrina Fidei,  
precibus praedicti sacerdotis annuit iuxta sequentes rationes:

1. Dispensationis Rescriptum a competenti Ordinario oratori quamprimum notificandum est:

- a) Eius effectum sortitur a momento notificationis;
- b) Rescriptum amplectitur inseparabiliter dispensationem a sacro coelibatu et simul amissionem status clericalis. Nunquam oratori fas est duo illa elementa seiungere, seu prius accipere et alterum recusare;
- c) Si vero orator est religiosus, Rescriptum concedit etiam dispensationem a votis;
- d) Idemque insuper secumfert, quatenus opus sit, absolutionem a censuris.

2. Notificatio dispensationis fieri potest vel personaliter ab ipso Ordinario eiusve delegato aut per ecclesiasticum actuarium vel per "epistulas praescriptas" (*registered*). Ordinarius unum exemplar restituere debet rite ab oratore subsignatum ad fidem receptionis Rescripti dispensationis ac simul acceptance eiusdem praeceptorum.

3. Notitia concessae dispensationis adnotetur in Libris baptizatorum paroeciae oratoris.

4. Quod attinet, si casus ferat, ad celebrationem canonici matrimonii, applicandae sunt normae quae in Codice Iuris Canonici statuuntur. Ordinarius vero curet ut res caute peragantur sine exteriori apparatu.

5. Auctoritas ecclesiastica, cui spectat Rescriptum oratori rite notificare, hunc enixe hortetur, ut vitam Populi Dei, ratione congruendi cum nova eius vivendi condicione, participet, aedificationem praestet et ita probum Ecclesiae filium se exhibeat. Simul autem eidem notum faciat ea quae sequuntur.

- a) *Sacerdos dispensatus eo ipso amittit iura statui clericali propria, dignitates et officia ecclesiastica; ceteris obligationibus cum statu clericali conexas non amplius adstringitur;*
- b) *exclusus manet ab exercitio sacri ministerii, iis exceptis de quibus in can. 976 et 986 § 2 CJC ac propterea nequit homiliam habere, nec potest officium gerere directivum in ambitu pastoralis neve munere administratoris paroecialis fungi;*
- c) *item nullum munus absolvere potest in Seminariis et in Institutis aequiparatis. In aliis Institutis studiorum gradus superioris, quae quocumque modo dependent ab Auctoritate ecclesiastica, munere directivo fungi nequit;*
- d) *in aliis vero Institutis studiorum gradus superioris ab Auctoritate ecclesiastica non dependentibus nullam theologiam disciplinam tradere potest;*
- e) *in Institutis autem studiorum gradus inferioris dependentibus ab Auctoritate ecclesiastica, munere directivo vel officio docendi fungi nequit. Eadem lege tenetur presbyter dimissus ac dispensatus in tradendo Religione in Institutis eiusdem generis non dependentibus ab Auctoritate ecclesiastica.*

6. Ordinarius curet ne presbyter dispensatus, propter defectum debitae prudentiae, fidelibus scandalum praebeat. Haec pastoralis sollicitudo Ordinarium a fortiori gravissime urget si adest periculum quamvis remotum minoribus abutendi.

7. Tempore autem opportuno, Ordinarius competens breviter ad Congregationem de peracta notificatione referat, et si qua tandem fidelium admiratio adsit, prudenti explicatione provideat.

Contrariis quibuscumque minime obstantibus.

Ex Aedibus Congregationis, die 18 m. Januarii a. 2005

*† Josephus Card. Ratzinger*

✠ Josephus Card. RATZINGER  
*Praefectus*

*\* F. Amato*

✠ Angelus AMATO, S.D.B.  
Archiep. titularis Silensis  
*a Secretis*

Dies notificationis \_\_\_\_\_

Subsignatio Presbyteri in signum  
acceptionis

Subsignatio Ordinarii

## NOTIFICATION OF RESCRIPT

### Dispensation from the Obligations of Sacred Orders and Priestly Celibacy Protocol Number 410/2004

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby attest that I have received and accepted the rescript of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith dated 18 January 2005 (Prot. N. 410/2004), dispensing me from all obligations arising from Sacred Orders, including that of celibacy. Moreover, I have received a certified copy of the original rescript.

I have been instructed and am fully aware of the conditions and precepts attached to my return to the lay state. As a faithful and loving son of the Church, I hereby accept and declare that I am willing to fulfill each and every one of them as part of my new condition in life.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner, John H. Dawson

The petitioner appeared before me at \_\_\_\_\_. He was notified of the rescript and was informed of its conditions. In addition, he was served with a certified copy of the original.

Petitioner accepted the rescript and its precepts by means of this affidavit, which was signed and sealed before me on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the Year of Our Lord \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Priest/Notary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

OFFICIAL SEAL

## CONGREGATION FOR THE DOCTRINE OF THE FAITH

PROT. N.: 410/2004

Los Angeles in California, USA

MR. JOHN H. DAWSON, priest of this [arch]diocese, has humbly requested a dispensation from all obligations pertaining to Sacred Orders.

REDACTED

on 18 January 2005, having received the report on the case from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, has granted the request of the above mentioned presbyter in accord with the following considerations:

1. The Ordinary is to give notice of the Rescript of Dispensation to the petitioner as soon as possible:
  - a) *The rescript takes effect at the moment of notification.*
  - b) *The rescript comprises inseparably a dispensation from sacred celibacy and loss of the clerical state. The petitioner may never lawfully separate those two elements, that is, accept the first and refuse the second.*
  - c) *If the petitioner is a religious, the rescript also grants a dispensation from vows.*
  - d) *In addition, the rescript includes an absolution from censures, if such is needed.*
2. The Ordinary or his delegate may give notice of the dispensation to the petitioner either in person or through an ecclesiastical notary or by means of registered mail. The Ordinary must send back a copy of the document duly signed by petitioner attesting that he has received and accepted both the dispensation and its precepts.
3. Notice of the granting of the dispensation is to be recorded in the baptismal register of the petitioner's parish.
4. In the eventuality of the celebration of a canonical marriage, the norms laid down in the Code of Canon Law are to be applied. But the Ordinary should see to it that such arrangements are carried out discreetly without outward display.
5. The ecclesiastical authority whose responsibility it is to communicate the rescript to the petitioner should earnestly exhort him to participate in the life of the People of God in a manner which is in harmony with his new condition in life, to give good example, and thus to show himself to be an upright son of the Church. At the same time he should inform the petitioner of the following points:
  - a) *A dispensed priest by the fact of his dispensation loses the rights proper to the clerical state and his ecclesiastical dignities and offices. He is no longer bound by the other obligations connected with the clerical state.*



## TRANSLATION: RESCRIPT OF DISPENSATION FROM PRIESTLY ORDERS

- b) *He remains excluded from the exercise of sacred ministry, with the exceptions mentioned in Canons 976 and 986, §2. He cannot, therefore, give a homily. In addition, he cannot assume any directive office in the pastoral field nor perform the duties of a parochial administrator.*
  - c) *Likewise, he cannot perform any functions in seminaries or equivalent institutions. He cannot discharge a directive function in other institutions of higher studies that depend in any way upon ecclesiastical authority.*
  - d) *In institutions of higher studies that do not depend upon ecclesiastical authority, he cannot teach any theological discipline.*
  - e) *In institutions of lower studies that depend upon ecclesiastical authority, he cannot discharge a directive function or the office of teaching. A priest who has been dismissed and dispensed is bound by the same norm in teaching religion at institutions of this type that do not depend upon ecclesiastical authority.*
6. The Ordinary is to take care that the dispensed priest does not become a source of scandal to the faithful on account of a lack of due prudence. This pastoral concern will weigh on the Ordinary all the more seriously if there is a danger however remote of abusing minors.
  7. The Ordinary is to send in a timely fashion a brief report to this Congregation concerning the notification of the rescript; and, if there be any wonderment on the part of the faithful, he should provide a prudent explanation.

All contrary provisions whatsoever notwithstanding.

Given in the Chambers of the Congregation on 18 January 2005.

+ Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger  
Prefect

+ Angelus Amato, S.D.B.  
Archbishop Secretary

### Understanding the Rescript

Section “5, b)” of the rescript makes reference to canons 976 and 986, §2. These canons refer to the ability to give sacramental absolution in danger of death. The texts declare:

Can. 976 – Even though a priest lacks the faculty to hear confessions, he absolves validly and licitly any penitents whatsoever in danger of death from any censures and sins, even if an approved priest is present.

Can. 986, §2 – In urgent necessity, any confessor is obliged to hear the confessions of the Christian faithful, and in danger of death any priest is so obliged.

Canon 976 is quite clear and needs no comment. It is the second clause of canon 986, §2 that applied in this situation. Basically, it states that there is a responsibility to use your power to absolve in order to aid someone in danger of death. Thus, even if that meant revealing your status to others who were not previously aware of that, the need of the penitent in danger of death would be paramount.

REDACTED

---

**From:** REDACTED  
**Sent:** Friday, March 11, 2005 12:03 PM  
**To:** REDACTED  
**Subject:** RE: Execution of CDF rescript

REDACTED

, the address for John is

REDACTED

See you on Monday. Hope you had a good time. REDACTED

-----Original Message-----

**From:** REDACTED  
**Sent:** Friday, March 04, 2005 3:50 PM  
**To:** REDACTED  
**Cc:** Cox, Msgr. Craig A.  
**Subject:** Execution of CDF rescript

REDACTED

Unfortunately you got away today before I had a chance to get John Dawson's address from you. I am attaching drafts of letter and forms I have prepared in case you and Craig can connect next week to issue a revised letter under his name - or you can revise the letter to accommodate your being the Cardinal's delegate. Otherwise, it will have to wait until I return the following week.

If you do proceed, you can have REDACTED let you in to my office, where you will find the original rescripts in a file folder on the small round table, with John Dawson's name on it. Please be sure to make a photocopy of one of the rescripts before mailing them just in case.

Thanks.

REDACTED



CONGREGATIO  
PRO DOCTRINA FIDEI

00120 Città del Vaticano,  
Palazzo del S. Ufficio

4 February 2005

PROT. N. 410/2004-20113

(In risposta *fiat merito huius numeri*)

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Your Eminence,

On 1 September 2004 you presented and supported the petition, dated 7 June 2004, of the **Rev. John H. DAWSON**, a priest of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles who has admitted multiple acts of sexual abuse against minors and has requested from the Holy Father the grace of dispensation from all the obligations of the clerical state, including celibacy.

This Congregation, after having carefully examined the documents of the present case and in light of the *votum* expressed by Your Excellency, decided on 13 November 2004 to forward the petition to the Holy Father for his decision. Subsequently, on 18 January 2005, Pope John Paul II granted the Rev. John H. Dawson the grace of dispensation *iuxta petita*, from all priestly obligations, including celibacy. Enclosed you will find two copies of the relevant Decree. Your Eminence is kindly requested to ensure that the priest is duly notified thereof. I would ask you also to return one of the signed copies of the Decree to this Office.

I take this opportunity also to send you a copy of a summary form which has been prepared to aid those assisting you in presenting similar cases of *graviora delicta* to this Dicastery. When a case is forwarded to the Congregation each element of the summary should be supported by the relevant documentation either in the original or in an authentic copy.

With gratitude for Your Eminence's assistance in these matters, I remain

Yours fraternally in the Lord,

*Joseph E. Ratzinger*

-Enclosures-

His Eminence  
**Roger Cardinal MAHONY**  
Archbishop of Los Angeles  
3424 Wilshire Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90010-2202  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



## MEMORANDUM

REDACTED

Los Angeles  
California  
90010-22413424  
Wilshire  
Boulevard

TO: Msgr. C. Cox, Vicar for Clergy  
 FROM: REDACTED  
 RE: J. Dawson  
 DATE: 27 January 2003

REDACTED

Having reviewed John's file, I am of the opinion that we would have grounds to request the CDF for a dispensation from prescription.

The psychological/medical reports detail multiple instances of behavior that constitutes an objectively grave violation of the sixth commandment with a minor. All these instances occurred before December 1992 and were reported by or about people who had long since turned 18 by that date. Therefore, all of them are in fact prescribed for a criminal process.

While the evidence is found in psychological and/or medical reports, these were made directly to the vicar for clergy as the archbishop's agent, following upon John's free will agreement to be assessed and treated. I do not know the civil legalities about using these reports – whether an ecclesiastical court constitutes a third party requiring John's written release, I cannot say.

The reports clearly indicate a diagnosis of ephebophilia, a mitigating factor in the gravity of the offense. But as footnote 4 to article 8 of the *Essential Norms* makes clear, a diagnosis of sexual disorder does not lessen the requirement of removal from ministry. I presume we would want to argue that his very standing as a cleric more than compensates for any mitigating factors, and that the seriousness of the offense requires no less removal from the clerical state, not merely from ministry.

I have not seen the letter that most recently went to John, inviting him to seek laicization, nor have I seen his reply. I did notice several references in his file indicating that he did not want to seek it at that time. The sense I got was that he wanted to feel more secure about his future, but also that such a termination of his "identity" would most likely be quite traumatic.

If he is still receiving counseling, this might be a topic he could be helped with. In the meantime, the "pastoral reasons" for requesting the dispensation from prescription would seem to be (1) the safety of children, (2) restorative justice for the individuals, families and faith communities that were victimized, and (3) John's own good in helping him to recognize and embrace his vocation as a layperson rather than a cleric. At least these are my initial suggestions.



---

## MEMORANDUM

---

TO: REDACTED

FROM:

RE: Reverend John H. Dawson

DATE: 25 January 2003

-----  
**Personal and Confidential**  
**Attorney – Client Privileged Communication**

REDACTED

February 17, 2006

Craig:

Enclosed, please find the materials you requested pertaining to John Dawson.

The materials include John's petition for laicization together with the supporting documentation. Also enclosed is a copy of the rescript and a record of efforts made to execute the rescript.

I hope this meets with your approval.

REDACTED



# FILE COPY

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

REDACTED

3424  
Wilshire  
Boulevard

Los Angeles  
California  
90010-2202

28 February 2007

**CONFIDENTIAL**

RE: Laicization of John Henry Dawson, Annotation of Baptismal Record

The Rev. Pastor/Parish Administrator  
Saint John the Baptist Church  
444 St. John Street  
Unity, PA 15239

Dear Pastor/Parish Administrator,

On 18 January 2005 the Pope John Paul II, acceding to a request for laicization made to him by **John Henry Dawson**, dispensed Father Dawson from all obligations connected to Sacred Orders and returned him to the lay state. This dispensation was communicated to John Henry Dawson and took full effect on 29 April 2005.

John Henry Dawson was born on 25 May 1941, and was baptized at Saint John the Baptist Church, Unity, PA on 29 June 1941. I request that you kindly make a marginal notation of this dispensation in his baptismal record.

The notation should read in these or similar words:

**Dispensation from all Sacred Orders  
(John Henry Dawson - Effective: 29 April 2005)**

I would appreciate it if you would send me written confirmation stating the notation has been made in the baptismal register. I also request you kindly send me a new copy of his baptismal certificate with the above notation. Please notify me of any stipend connected with the issuance of the certificate.

Thanking you for your assistance in this matter, and with prayerful good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

REDACTED

Archdiocese of Los Angeles



REDACTED

Fr

New Mexico  
Santa Fe Archdiocese

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED )

REDACTED

*call*

REDACTED

*Pawson case*

*Santa Fe (Albuquerque)*

REDACTED

REDACTED

6/15

4/29

REDACTED

EDACTED

9/17

007004

REDACTED

[Search by Phone Number](#) [Search by Social Security Number](#) [Complete Background Check](#)

# ZABASEARCH

Search Any Full Name:

**Public Information** Results Summary: [9 JOHN DAWSON / 93 J DAWSON](#) [Leave a message](#) [Check messages](#) [E](#)

**JOHN DAWSON - Background Check, 20 Year History** [Premium Listing](#)

[www.Intelius.com](#) Comprehensive Report. Criminal Records. Latest Contact Information.

**Find JOHN DAWSON** [Premium Listing](#)

[www.Intelius.com](#) Get Current Phone and Address

**JOHN DAWSON - 9 Listings**

[Leave a message for](#) [Check messages](#) [E-mail This Page](#) [ZabaAlert](#)

**Check messages for:** [Dawson - John](#) - [John Dawson](#) [Check YouTube](#)

**JOHN C DAWSON** Born 1943 [More Information on JOHN C DAWSON](#)

4649 SUTTON ST NW [Map It](#) Recorded: Unknown [JOHN C DAWSON business listings](#) [Check Yellow Pages](#)

ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87114 County (505) 792-3134 [Leave a message for JOHN C DAWSON](#)

[www.ZabaSearch.com/Google](#) - [Background Check](#)

**JOHN H DAWSON** Born 1941 [More Information on JOHN H DAWSON](#)

87 CALLE VADITO NW [Map It](#) Recorded: Unknown [JOHN H DAWSON business listings](#) [Check Yellow Pages](#)

ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87120 County (505) 839-7304 [Leave a message for JOHN H DAWSON](#)

[www.ZabaSearch.com/Google](#) - [Background Check](#)

**JOHN A DAWSON** Born 1975 [More Information on JOHN A DAWSON](#)

1104 PECOS ST [Map It](#) Recorded: Unknown [JOHN A DAWSON business listings](#) [Check Yellow Pages](#)

CLOVIS, NM 88101 County (505) 762-2314 [Leave a message for JOHN A DAWSON](#)

[www.ZabaSearch.com/Google](#) - [Background Check](#)

**JOHN O DAWSON** Born Aug 1954 [More Information on JOHN O DAWSON](#)

1534 MARETH PL [Map It](#) Recorded: 08/14/2002 [JOHN O DAWSON business listings](#) [Check Yellow Pages](#)

CLOVIS, NM 88101 County (505) 784-5466 [Leave a message for JOHN O DAWSON](#)

[www.ZabaSearch.com/Google](#) - [Background Check](#)

**JOHN O DAWSON** Born Aug 1954 [More Information on JOHN O DAWSON](#)

1712 JUGGLER LOOP [Map It](#) Recorded: 02/27/2002 [JOHN O DAWSON business listings](#) [Check Yellow Pages](#)

CLOVIS, NM 88101 County [Leave a message for JOHN O DAWSON](#)

[www.ZabaSearch.com/Google](#) - [Background Check](#)

**JOHN R DAWSON** [More Information on JOHN R DAWSON](#)

1819 EVELYN ST [Map It](#) Recorded: 09/01/2005 [JOHN R DAWSON business listings](#) [Check Yellow Pages](#)

LAS CRUCES, NM 88001 County [Leave a message for JOHN R DAWSON](#)

[www.ZabaSearch.com/Google](#) - [Background Check](#)

**JOHN R DAWSON** Born Sep 1947 [More Information on JOHN R DAWSON](#)

1819 EVELYN ST [Map It](#) Recorded: 12/16/2004 [JOHN R DAWSON business listings](#) [Check Yellow Pages](#)

LAS CRUCES, NM 88001 County (505) 527-0897 [Leave a message for JOHN R DAWSON](#)

[www.ZabaSearch.com/Google](#) - [Background Check](#)

[Public Reco](#)

[Confirmed Pl](#)

[Age, Date of](#)

[www.ThePut](#)

[Found JOH](#)

[Current Phor](#)

[Age was Loc](#)

[www.Intelius](#)

[Find JOHN I](#)

[Get current](#)

[address and](#)

[www.People](#)

[Criminal Re](#)

[Check JOHN](#)

[National Crin](#)

[www.Intelius](#)

[Search By S](#)

[Current Phor](#)

[Address Hist](#)

[www.Intelius](#)

**JOHN M DAWSON** [More Information on JOHN M DAWSON](#)3210 WALNUT ST [Map It](#) Recorded: 05/30/2003 [JOHN M DAWSON business listings](#) [Check Yellow Pages](#)**LOS ALAMOS, NM 87544** [County](#) [Leave a message for JOHN M DAWSON](#)[www.ZabaSearch.com/Google](http://www.ZabaSearch.com/Google) - [Background Check](#)**JOHN E DAWSON** Born 1937 [More Information on JOHN E DAWSON](#)1723 ALAMEDA ST [Map It](#) Recorded: Unknown [JOHN E DAWSON business listings](#) [Check Yellow Pages](#)**SANTA FE, NM 87501** [County](#) **(505) 983-6124** [Leave a message for JOHN E DAWSON](#)[www.ZabaSearch.com/Google](http://www.ZabaSearch.com/Google) - [Background Check](#)**J DAWSON - 93 Listings**[Leave a message for](#) [Check messages](#) [E-mail This Page](#) [ZabaAlert](#)**Check messages for:** - [John Dawson](#) [Check YouTube](#)**[Click Here for 93 Free J DAWSON Listings](#)****Can't find JOHN DAWSON?**[Premium Listing](#)**TRY THIS DATABASE****Background Check on JOHN DAWSON**[Premium Listing](#)[www.PeopleLookUp.com](http://www.PeopleLookUp.com) 20 Year History[Search by Phone Number](#) [Search by Social Security Number](#) **[Complete Background Check](#)****Search Any Full Name:**  ▼**ZABASEARCH** being described as "Google on steroids." -CBS 4 WMOV St. Louis[Check for Messages](#) [Yellow Pages](#) [30,000+ Free Databases](#) [Top 25 Searches](#) [Your Current Location](#) [ZabaAlerts!](#)(c)ZABA Inc 2006 [Privacy](#) [About](#) [Terms](#) [Text Ad Login](#)

This is a copy of the wording in the  
letter that was sent to John H. Dawson

John H. Dawson  
REDACTED

Albuquerque, NM 87120

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Dear John H. Dawson;

Peace and all good.

I have been asked by the chancellor of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles to execute the rescript from Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith regarding your case. I have received the papers and would like to set up a meeting with you REDACTED REDACTED and myself. I believe this would be the last action necessary regarding your case. Please contact me at the offices of the Archdiocese of Santa Fe at REDACTED or if you like I can be reached by email:  
REDACTED

Sincerely,



Message

Page 1 of 1

REDACTED

From: REDACTED  
Sent: Tuesday, December 06, 2005 10:59 AM  
To: Cox, Msgr. Craig A. REDACTED  
Subject: Father John Dawson  
Importance: High

Monsignor Cox,

Here is the information you requested regarding the contact information for Father John Dawson's  
Canonical Advisor:

REDACTED c/o St. Patrick Church, P. O. Box 399, North Platte,  
NE 69103-0399, Phone #: REDACTED

Thank you.

REDACTED

REDACTED

12/7

*spoke w/*

*John is a recluse  
has a roommate who was penally  
laxied  
John makes night at a motel +  
sleeps during the day*

12/6/2005

CCI 006765

7005 1160 0005 1652 4719

U.S. Postal Service™	
CERTIFIED MAIL™ RECEIPT	
(Domestic Mail Only; No Insurance Coverage Provided)	
For delivery information visit our website at <a href="http://www.usps.com">www.usps.com</a>	
OFFICIAL USE	
Postage	\$ 1.63
Certified Fee	2.00
Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required)	1.85
Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required)	
Total Postage & Fees	\$ 5.48

Postmark Here  
LOS ANGELES CA 90010  
JAN 25 2006

Sent To: John H. Dawson  
Street, or P.O. Box: REDACTED  
City, State, ZIP+4: REDACTED

PS Form 3800, April 2004

**Certified Mail Provides:**

- A mailing receipt
- A unique identifier for your mailpiece
- A record of delivery kept by the Postal Service for two years

(Reverse) PS Form 3800, June 2002

**Important Reminders:**

- Certified Mail may ONLY be combined with First-Class Mail® or Priority Mail®.
- Certified Mail is *not* available for any class of international mail.
- NO INSURANCE COVERAGE IS PROVIDED with Certified Mail. For valuables, please consider Insured or Registered Mail.
- For an additional fee, a *Return Receipt* may be requested to provide proof of delivery. To obtain Return Receipt service, please complete and attach a Return Receipt (PS Form 3811) to the article and add applicable postage to cover the fee. Endorse mailpiece "Return Receipt Requested". To receive a fee waiver for a duplicate return receipt, a USPS® postmark on your Certified Mail receipt is required.
- For an additional fee, delivery may be restricted to the addressee or addressee's authorized agent. Advise the clerk or mark the mailpiece with the endorsement "Restricted Delivery".
- If a postmark on the Certified Mail receipt is desired, please present the article at the post office for postmarking. If a postmark on the Certified Mail receipt is not needed, detach and affix label with postage and mail.

**IMPORTANT: Save this receipt and present it when making an inquiry.**  
Internet access to delivery information is not available on mail addressed to APOs and FPOs.

CMOB: 190

Considered by CMOB ☒

Inactive Date 6/24/2009

Case Name California Tourist

Active Case? ☐

Priest Name Dawson, John Henry

DOB 5/25/1941

Ethnicity American (USA)

Diocese Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Canon State Diocesan Priest

Religious Order

Incardination

Date Of Ordination

Clergy Status To Lay State

Clergy (Faculties)

Religious ☐Diocesan ☐

Description

Deacon

DOB

Diocese

Ethnicity

Ordination

Status

Date Referred to Vicar

Date Of Alleged Incident

Alleged Victim

Multiple Victims ☐

Accusers

Investigation Complete ☐

Investigator Name

Removed From Ministry ☐

Date Removed From Ministry

Date Returned To Ministry

Case Disposition

Disposition Comments

Intervention ☐

Description

In April 2008, REDACTED received an affidavit from REDACTED in Philadelphia. The complaint alleges that when he was approximately 12 years old his family would visit California. During one of these visits he met Fr X. Later, Fr X would send the complainant letters that "contained information of a sexual nature." The complainant alleges that he was sexually abused by Fr X on two occasions, i.e., once when visiting the home of the priest's parents in Texas and once visiting the priest's home in California. He claims that on both of these occasions, during the night Fr X climbed into his bed naked. He touched the complainant's genitals and then he began to masturbate him.

) Then he performed oral sex on the complain FR X was incardinated in Los Angeles in 1967. Fr X served in the archdiocese until 1992. There is a gap in his service record until 1995 at which time he was placed on inactive leave. In April of 2005 he was laicized.

*Case Status*

June 24, 2009	Since Fr X has been laicized no further action is required by the Board. Case will be moved to the inactive file.
---------------	---

*Follow Up*

*Follow Up Date*

*Legal Proceedings*

*Legal Proceedings?* ☐

*Court Cases Settled*

*Response*

*Response Date*

*Sent To Rome?* ☐

*Date Sent To Rome*

*Canonical Trial* ☐

*Canonical Trial Date*

*Canonical Disposition*

*Page*

409957

REDACTED

## Clergy Assignment Record (Detailed)

**Mr John Henry Dawson**

REDACTED

*Current Primary Assignment*

<i>Birth Date</i>	5/25/1941	<i>Age:</i>	68
<i>Birth Place</i>	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA	<i>Deanery:</i>	23
<i>Diaconate Ordination</i>			
<i>Priesthood Ordination</i>	4/29/1967		
<i>Diocese Name</i>	Archdiocese of Los Angeles		
<i>Date of Incardination</i>			
<i>Religious Community</i>			
<i>Ritual Ascription</i>	Latin		
<i>Ministry Status</i>	To Lay State		
<i>Home phone</i>	REDACTED		
<i>Seminary</i>	St. John Seminary, Camarillo		
<i>Ethnicity</i>	American (USA)		

**Fingerprint Verification and Safeguard Training***Date Background Check**Virtus Training Date***Assignment History**

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Beginning Date</i>	<i>Completion Date</i>
Returned To Lay State, Rescript from the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith, Prot. No. 410\2004.	4/29/2005	
Inactive Leave	10/1/1995	4/28/2005
St. Sebastian Catholic Church, Los Angeles Pastor, Active Service	1/15/1985	12/31/1992
St. James the Less Catholic Church, La Crescenta Administrator Pro Tem, Active Service	7/14/1984	1/14/1985
St. James the Less Catholic Church, La Crescenta Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service	7/9/1982	7/13/1984
St. Bernadette Catholic Church, Los Angeles Administrator Pro Tem, Active Service	2/13/1982	7/8/1982
St. Bernadette Catholic Church, Los Angeles Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service	12/28/1978	2/12/1982
Our Lady of Refuge Catholic Church, Long Beach Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service	8/1/1974	12/27/1978

409958

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church, Santa Barbara Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service	2/17/1970	7/31/1974
St. Paul of the Cross Catholic Church, La Mirada Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service	5/13/1967	2/16/1970

---

### Background Information

<i>Salutation</i>	Father	<i>Retired in Rectory?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Social Security Number</i>	REDACTED	<i>Will Filed?</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Citizenship</i>	U.S.A.	<i>Reference</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Immigration Status</i>	Citizen	<i>Power of Attorney Health Care</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Green Card End Date</i>		<i>Power of Attorney Finance</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Payroll in lieu of stipends</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Enrolled in Pension Plan</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Receiving Pension?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>		



---

## MEMORANDUM

---

July 27, 2009

TO: File  
FROM: REDACTED  
Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board

SUBJECT: Father John Henry Dawson (CMOB 189)

The Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board considered the allegations against Father John Henry Dawson on June 24, 2009.

The complainant alleges that when he was 12 years old, his family would visit California where he met Fr Henry Dawson. He claims that Fr. Dawson climbed naked into his bed and began to masturbate him. The same thing happened on another occasion when he was visiting Fr Dawson in Texas. Fr. Dawson was laicized in 2005 for similar activity. The Board concluded that no further action was required and that the case should be moved to the inactive file.

REDACTED



RETURNED TO LAY OFFICIAL 7/21/2003

190

ACCUSED NAME: Fr John H. Dawson DATE: 5-4-2009

CONFIDENTIAL

ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES  
Child Abuse Report - Internal Routing Form

This report involves allegations of:

☐ Current Minor and Church Employee/volunteer  
☐ Current Minor and Priest  
☒ Past Minor and Priest  
☐ Past Minor and Religious Brother  
☐ Past Minor and Religious Sister  
☐ Adult/Adult Case  
☐ Other

Sexual abuse: ☒Physical abuse: ☐Harassment: ☐

Brief Summary: Minor sexually abused by Fr John Dawson -  
after allegation against this priest.

To:

☒ Msgr. Gonzales - Vicar of Clergy (2)  
☒ REDACTED  
☒ REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

Submitted by:

Office

Date distributed: 5/4/2009

Comment: REDACTED

says he reported his case to the  
ADLA 5-10 years ago. Vicar's office does not have record of allegation  
Vicar's office has no record of previous allegation for this victim.

Revised: 03/12/2009

409961

CCI 007144



**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**INVESTIGATION AND RESPONSIBILITY FORM**

CLERGY NAME: Fr. John H. Dawson DATE 1<sup>ST</sup> REPORT/INVESTIGATION: 3-12-2009

Office Responsible	Y/N/NA Circle one	Target Date	Completion Date
<b>Vicar for Clergy</b>			
• Assign Investigator (other than current minor) Name: _____	Y/N/NA	_____	_____
• Advise Religious Superior	Y/N/NA	_____	_____
• Advise Other Diocese(s)	Y/N/NA	_____	_____
• Meet with accused clergy	Y/N/NA	_____	_____
• Investigation complete & disposition in file	Y/N/NA	_____	_____
• Other	Y/N/NA	_____	_____
<b>Vicar for Canonical Service/Promoter of Justice</b>			
• Decree opening preliminary investigation/Canon 1717	Y/N/NA	_____	_____
• Assign Investigator (current minor) Name: _____	Y/N/NA	_____	_____
• Advise Religious Superior	Y/N/NA	_____	_____
• Advise Other Diocese(s)	Y/N/NA	_____	_____
• Advise accused to engage Canonical counsel	Y/N/NA	_____	_____
• Meet with accused clergy	Y/N/NA	_____	_____
• Investigation complete & disposition in file	Y/N/NA	_____	_____
• Report to Rome with Votum of the Cardinal	Y/N/NA	_____	_____
• Other	Y/N/NA	_____	_____
<b>Legal</b>			
• Report made to Law Enforcement REDACTED	Y/N/NA	_____	_____
• Other <u>referred case to</u> REDACTED <u>handling.</u>	Y/N/NA	<u>4/14/2009</u>	_____
<b>Victims Assistance</b>			
• <u>Pastoral Outreach</u>	Y/N/NA	<u>arranged w/</u>	<u>in Philadelphia</u>
• <u>Further Assistance</u>	Y/N/NA	<u>2-2009</u>	<u>3-12-09</u>
• Other	Y/N/NA	<u>Refused counseling &amp;</u>	<u>spiritual director</u>
<b>Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board</b>			
• Reported to Chair/ Matter opened	Y/N/NA	_____	_____
• CMOB case opened (Assigned # _____)	Y/N/NA	_____	_____
• Recommendation Made	Y/N/NA	_____	_____
• Case Closed	Y/N/NA	_____	_____

OTHER DEPARTMENTS/ACTIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN FILE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ FOLLOW UP PERSON ASSIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_